

**Fred Karger**  
**3699 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 1290**  
**Los Angeles, CA 90010**

June 13, 2013

Office of the General Counsel  
Federal Election Commission  
999 E Street, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20463

MUR # 6740

OFFICE OF THE  
GENERAL COUNSEL  
FEDERAL ELECTION  
COMMISSION  
999 E STREET, N.W.  
WASHINGTON, DC 20463

I want to bring to your attention possible violations of the Federal Election Campaign Act by former United States Senator Rick Santorum, the National Organization for Marriage and Mr. Bob Vander Plaats.

I respectfully ask the Federal Election Commission to conduct a full investigation into the likelihood that the National Organization for Marriage, its officers and major supporters paid the Family Leader and its president Mr. Bob Vander Plaats up to \$1 million to secure its endorsement of then presidential candidate Rick Santorum. Mr. Vander Plaats' endorsement of Mr. Santorum occurred just two weeks before the Iowa Caucus and enabled Mr. Santorum to beat former Governor Mitt Romney in the first contest of the 2012 Presidential Campaign.

Additionally, it appears that there was coordination between the Santorum for President Campaign, Mr. Brian Brown, President of the National Organization for Marriage and Mr. Bob Vander Plaats, President of the Family Leader for the purpose of funding the Vander Plaats created Super PAC, *Families for Leaders*. The *Families for Leaders* Super PAC was established to support Mr. Santorum in Iowa.

#### **Complainant and Respondents**

##### **Complainant:**

Fred Karger  
3699 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 1290  
Los Angeles, CA 90010

##### **Respondents:**

Senator Rick Santorum  
P.O. Box 37  
Verona, PA 15147

National Organization for Marriage, Inc.  
Mr. Brian Brown, President  
2029 K Street, NW Suite 300  
Washington, DC 20006

15044381803

Mr. Bob Vander Plaats  
President and CEO  
The Family Leader  
P.O. Box 42245  
Urbandale, IA 5032

**Pay for Play: National Organization for Marriage (NOM),  
Rick Santorum and Bob Vander Plaats**

In December 2011, former United States Senator Rick Santorum's presidential campaign was on life-support. His polling numbers were in the low single digits and he had very little campaign cash. Then, on December 20, 2011, Rick Santorum received the coveted endorsements of well-known Iowa Religious Right leader Bob Vander Plaats, president and CEO of The Family Leader and his sidekick Chuck Hurley, president of Mr. Vander Plaats' Iowa Family Policy Center.

It was widely reported in the media that Mr. Vander Plaats had solicited up to \$1 million from three different presidential campaigns before making his final endorsement of Mr. Santorum. In the two weeks immediately following the Santorum endorsement, Mr. Vander Plaats and Mr. Hurley, both of whom had little experience with federal campaigns or federal PACs, accomplished herculean tasks.

Mr. Vander Plaats started a federal Super PAC, *Families for Leaders PAC*, created a massive telephone robocalling campaign to Republican voters, produced slick TV and radio commercials, raised at least \$150,000 and spent far more than that leading up to Iowa's January 3, 2012 Republican Presidential Caucus. All this was done on behalf of Mr. Santorum's campaign for President following the endorsement.

**Santorum's Campaign Was Broke**

The Santorum for President Campaign had raised and spent approximately \$2 million in the two years leading up to the January 3, 2012 Iowa Caucus and had very little money left (see attachment, FEC Financial Summary – 2011 Year-end). The reported \$1 million to secure the endorsement of Mr. Vander Plaats had to come from somewhere. It likely came from a third party.

There is only one logical suspect; the Washington, DC based National Organization for Marriage. NOM's founder and chairman Maggie Gallagher and president Brian Brown had worked very closely with Mr. Santorum and Mr. Vander Plaats for several years and had exceptionally close political and financial ties to both men. Our complaint will detail the unholy alliance of NOM, Mr. Santorum and Mr. Vander Plaats that we believe resulted in to the National Organization for Marriage, its leadership and its major donors contributing up to \$1 million that Mr. Vander Plaats sought for his presidential endorsement.

## **Vander Plaats Endorses Rick Santorum for President**

Bob Vander Plaats and Chuck Hurley endorsed Mr. Santorum on December 20, 2011. NOM likely helped pay and raise the \$1 million for Mr. Vander Plaats' and Mr. Hurley's endorsements and also helped create the Santorum Super PAC, *Families for Leaders*. Together NOM and the *Family for Leaders PAC* greatly helped propel Mr. Santorum into a narrow victory against frontrunner Mitt Romney in the Iowa Caucus on January 3, 2012.

The *Families for Leaders PAC* has NOM's fingerprints all over it. It was set up by The Bopp Law Firm (James Bopp has been NOM's principal attorney since 2007). Frank Schubert, NOM's Political Director, ran the PAC's Iowa campaign and created and placed its radio and television commercials. NOM also appears likely to have helped raise the PAC's money through its biggest donors such as billionaire John Templeton, Jr. and San Diego mega-donor Terry Caster.

Mr. Vander Plaats' "independent" campaign on behalf of Mr. Santorum succeeded beyond anyone's wildest imagination. Just one week after his endorsement, Mr. Santorum's official Super PAC, Red White and Blue raised \$400,000. This is more than it had raised in its previous two months of existence. The newer *Families for Leaders* Super PAC set up by Mr. Vander Plaats raised another \$150,000 to help Mr. Santorum. Together, this \$550,000 raised in one week is 60% more than the Santorum for President Campaign had raised in 8 months. The Vander Plaats and Hurley endorsements, all the media attention that it received, the ensuing cash and advertisements propelled Mr. Santorum to his upset victory in Iowa. Mr. Santorum's Iowa win then turned the entire 2012 Republican Presidential Primary upside down.

### **NOM's \$80,000 Down Payment to Vander Plaats in 2011**

We have attached two Schedule 1 pages from NOM's 2011 IRS form 990 for both the National Organization for Marriage, Inc. (a 501(c)4 corporation) and the National Organization for Marriage Educational Fund (a 501(c)3 corporation). The filings detail \$80,000 worth of NOM contributions in 2011 to Mr. Vander Plaats' two organizations The Family Leader and the Iowa Family Policy Council (both at 1100 Hickory Blvd., Pleasant Hill, IA). NOM's 990's for 2012 are not available yet, so it is impossible to determine exactly how much more money NOM may have given to Mr. Vander Plaats last year. It is likely that the \$80,000 paid directly to Mr. Vander Plaats' organizations in 2011 could have easily constituted NOM's down payment toward securing his \$1 million endorsement of Rick Santorum for President.

### **Request for Investigation**

I hereby ask the Federal Election Commission to investigate the potential \$1 million "Pay for Play" by the National Organization for Marriage to Mr. Bob Vander Plaats to secure his and Mr. Hurley's endorsements of Rick Santorum for President. Additionally, we ask that the FEC to investigate the federal Super PAC Mr. Vander Plaats created; The Families PAC, its fundraising, expenditures and possible coordination with the Santorum for President Campaign.

Questions:

1. Whether the Santorum for President Campaign was coordinating with the Bob Vander Plaats and the National Organization for Marriage established Super PAC, *Families for Leaders* run by NOM's Political Director Frank Schubert?
2. Whether the National Organization for Marriage is in violation for not disclosing its donations of up to \$1 million to Mr. Vander Plaats and The Family Leader?
3. Whether the National Organization for Marriage and Mr. Vander Plaats are in violation for using campaign funds for personal benefit?
4. Whether the National Organization for Marriage is in violation for not reporting independent expenditures made to support the Rick Santorum for President, Inc.?
5. Whether the National Organization for Marriage which has a long history of refusing to disclose its donors' names has placed Mr. Vander Plaats and Mr. Santorum in violation of using funds from unknown sources.
6. Whether the Family Leader and the Santorum for President Campaign are in violation for not reporting its campaign's purchase and or use of The Family Leader's list of voters from the 2010 Iowa Judicial Retention Election to the Santorum for President Campaign?
7. Was there coordination between the Santorum for President Campaign and the National Organization for Marriage, the Red White and Blue PAC and The Families PAC with two of NOM's largest donors John Templeton, Jr. and Terry Caster? On December 23, 2011 John Templeton, Jr. (who had contributed at least \$550,000 previously to NOM) gave \$200,000 to the Red, White and Blue PAC that supported Rick Santorum for President. On January 6, 2012: Terry Caster (who along with his family had previously contributed at least \$290,000 to NOM) gave \$150,000 to *Leaders for Families PAC*

NOM Bopp Law Firm: <http://www.nationformarriage.org/atf/cf/%7B39D8B5C1-F9FE-48C0-ABE6-1029BA77854C%7D/Rubenstein.letter.pdf>

NOM Political Director Frank Schubert: <http://www.nationalreview.com/corner/343896/why-gay-marriage-and-conservatism-are-incompatible-frank-schubert>

Schubert runs Schubert Flint Public Affairs: <http://www.prnewswire.com/news-releases-test/frank-schubert-to-depart-from-schubert-flint-public-affairs-145960555.html>

NOM's John Templeton Jr.: <http://whyevolutionistrue.wordpress.com/2012/04/16/the-templetons-give-huge-donations-to-anti-gay-organization/>

**Mr. Vander Plaats' Endorsement  
for Sale to the Highest Bidder**

"Clearly the endorsement was for sale...without a doubt." This quote comes from ABC News just three days after Bob Vander Plaats endorsed Rick Santorum for President. The quote came from a "source familiar with talks between the conservative heavyweight and representatives from several of the Republican presidential campaigns." This source "described "Vander Plaats' tactics as corrupt." Multiple Sources have quoted Mr. Vander Plaats' asking price for his endorsement as going for \$1 million. Mr. Vander Plaats knows his sway with evangelicals in Iowa. CNN has described "Vander Plaats' personal nod is among the most coveted among candidates seeking support from those conservatives – a crucial voting bloc in the state's January 3<sup>rd</sup> caucuses." <http://politicalticker.blogs.cnn.com/2011/12/22/santorum-vander-plaats-said-he-needed-money-to-promote-the-endorsement/>

Mr. Vander Plaats has never denied that money was part of the discussions with the Republican candidates for President, but has insisted that the \$1 million would be used to advertise the endorsement. ABC news quoted a conservative Iowa political activist to show how ludicrous this claim is: "There is no way he could buy enough ad space in Iowa for a million dollars – couldn't buy that much advertising in a week and a half in Iowa." <http://abcnews.go.com/blogs/politics/2011/12/iowa-conservative-leader-mired-in-controversy-after-rick-santorum-endorsement/>

Mr. Santorum appears to have had many discussions with Mr. Vander Plaats right up until three days before the endorsement. "Santorum acknowledged in an interview with CNN that money was among the topics he and Vander Plaats discussed last weekend ahead of Tuesday's endorsement press conference." <http://politicalticker.blogs.cnn.com/2011/12/22/santorum-vander-plaats-said-he-needed-money-to-promote-the-endorsement/>

Along with endorsing Mr. Santorum, Mr. Vander Plaats spoke with presidential candidates Congresswoman Michele Bachmann and Governor Rick Perry to convince them to drop out of the race the weekend before he endorsed Mr. Santorum. "Vander Plaats called Bachmann on Saturday (December 17) to ask her to consider merging her campaign with another candidate's." Bachmann said she was asked to merge, which means "somebody has to drop out," she told WHO-AM on Thursday. "Why can't the top three or so pro-family candidates come together and figure out who has the talents for president, who has the talents for other roles?" said Family Leader activist Chuck Hurley, who endorsed Rick Santorum Tuesday. "And those people could quickly ... vault into first place and win the caucuses and win the nomination."

It appears that as part of the Vander Plaats' endorsement agreement, "Vander Plaats said he would share with Santorum the voter lists he compiled while working last year to oust Iowa Supreme Court justices who ruled in favor of legalizing same-sex marriage." There is no payment record from the Santorum for President Campaign, the *Leaders for Families* PAC or Santorum's Red, White and Blue PAC for the purchase of any voter lists from Mr. Vander Plaats or The Family Leader. <http://caucuses.desmoinesregister.com/2011/12/20/iowa-evangelicals-skeptical-they-can-unite-behind-one-candidate-for-caucuses/>

## **NOM and the Santorum Joined at the Hip**

On July 8, 2011 the National Organization for Marriage and Mr. Vander Plaats' The Family Leader created a "Marriage Pledge" for 2012 presidential candidates to vow to protect and "uphold a wide-ranging social conservative agenda." Mr. Santorum was the first to sign this pledge. <http://www.politico.com/news/stories/0711/58591.html>

On November 19, 2011, the National Organization for Marriage cohosted a Thanksgiving Presidential Forum with The Family Leader:  
<http://www.p2012.org/chrniowa/familyleader111911.html>

Mr. Santorum was a breakout star of this forum and he and Newt Gingrich were declared winners. "Gingrich and Santorum helped their campaigns the most."  
<http://theiowarepublican.com/2011/thanksgiving-family-forum-recap-winners-and-losers/>

The National Organization for Marriage turned its official blog into a propaganda machine for Mr. Santorum the week before the Iowa Caucus. The NOMBlog wrote that "Santorum is the 'Ronald Reagan' Candidate of the GOP Primary." "Santorum: GOP's Man of the Moment," and reporting on Mr. Santorum's big surge... into third place in the Iowa polls without mentioning the number 1 and 2 candidates. NOMBlog continued to heavily promote Mr. Santorum throughout the primary season until he suspended his campaign on April 10, 2012.

The National Organization for Marriage celebrated Mr. Santorum's Iowa Caucus win with Mr. Vander Plaats at the Waterloo Caucus. According to NOM's official blog, "NOM and The Family Leader have been close allies since the two joined forces in 2010 to defeat three Iowa Supreme Court justices who were facing judicial retention elections following their imposition of same-sex marriage in 2009. All three justices, including the sitting Chief Justice, were removed from office as a result of the NOM/Family Leader campaign."  
<http://www.nationformarriage.org/site/apps/nlnet/content2.aspx?c=omL2KeNÖLzH&b=5075189&ct=11571699>

On January 9, 2012 Brian Brown, president of National Organization for Marriage donated \$50,000 to the Red, White and Blue PAC, the Super PAC for Mr. Santorum, through NOM's legal arm, ActRight. ActRight shares offices with NOM in Washington, DC.

On January 14, 2012 NOM's founder Maggie Gallagher endorsed Mr. Santorum for President. She stated that "Rick Santorum has been a hero of the movement in every sense on marriage, life and religious liberty. No one has been braver or taken more hits for his courage than Rick."  
<http://www.ncregister.com/site/article/presidential-hopefuls-rick-santorum1/#ixzz2QPp3gAlm>

## **NOM and Santorum: A Long and Sordid History**

Mr. Santorum lost his reelection bid in the U S Senate race by more than 17% in 2006 before the National Organization for Marriage helped resurrect his political career. In June of 2009, the National Organization for Marriage mailed a four page fundraising letter signed by Rick Santorum to its huge mailing list.

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In NOM's secret campaign plan "National Strategy for Wining the Marriage Battle" from December 15, 2009 (attached) which was recently unsealed by a federal judge, NOM gloated: "We have already launched a \$1 million e-mail, direct mail, and automated call campaign and have gained over 500,000 activists and roughly 20,000 new donors in our first few months of this effort. Rick Santorum has served as the face of this effort through e-mail and direct mail. Mr. Santorum has recently agreed to use his voice in a nationwide automated call effort to solicit activists and donations."

Santorum continues to campaign for the National Organization for Marriage:  
<http://www.nomblog.com/27379/>

Santorum, Brown and Vander Plaats on "NO Wiggins" Bus Tour  
<http://www.ontopmag.com/article.aspx?id=13153&MediaType=1&Category=26>

### **NOM Under Active Investigations in Maine and California**

On October 1, 2009 the Maine Commission on Governmental Ethics and Election Practice announced an unprecedented investigation of NOM for alleged money laundering of up to \$1.9 million in that state's election to repeal its recently passed same-sex marriage law.

As a result of that investigation many of NOM's secret campaign documents were unsealed by a federal judge detailing NOM's chilling attempts to conceal donors in the Maine election:  
<http://americanindependent.com/214817/nom-docs-show-ties-to-anti-gay-marriage-pac>

On page 16 of these secret documents, in the section entitled "State Emergency Reserve Fund," NOM's campaign plan states... "We face a series of hurdles in getting state ballot initiatives and candidate campaigns funded because donors must be disclosed. However, if NOM makes a contribution from its own resources that are not specifically designated for one of these efforts donor identities are **NOT** disclosed." That is the way NOM operates to avoid state election laws and not report its donors' names: <http://tinyurl.com/lfaurcd>

For this reason, NOM's finances are a great mystery and even after two separate decisions from the United States Supreme Court ordering NOM to release its contributor's names, NOM refuses: <http://www.advocate.com/politics/marriage-equality/2012/10/06/nom-still-refuses-disclose-donors-maine>

In 2008 during its active role in California's Proposition 8 campaign, NOM hid \$345,000 that it raised that year and presumably spent in that close election. The California Fair Political Practices Commission has been investigating NOM for violating that state's election law for over one year: <http://www.rawstory.com/rs/2012/06/06/california-to-investigate-anti-gay-group-over-undisclosed-donors/>

### **NOM Active Around the Country**

The National Organization for Marriage has become the most visible leader in opposing same-sex marriage throughout the United States. Since its inception in 2007 NOM has led campaigns against same-sex marriage in California, New York, New Jersey, Rhode Island, New Hampshire,

Delaware, Vermont, Connecticut, Iowa, Illinois, Minnesota, Colorado, Washington, Maryland, Maine, North Carolina and Washington, DC.

### Conclusion

The National Organization for Marriage, Rick Santorum and Bob Vander Plaats have worked hand in hand over the past four years. The National Organization for Marriage had the resources and the reasons to secure Bob Vander Plaats' endorsement of Rick Santorum for President.

The Federal Election Commission could uncover this "Pay for Play" attempt by the National Organization for Marriage to influence the 2012 Iowa Caucus.

An investigation of the events surrounding Bob Vander Plaats' 2011 endorsement of Rick Santorum for President would send a clear message to future federal campaigns and organizations that the purchase of an endorsement by third parties in coordination with a federal campaign is illegal.

### Potential Witnesses to the Above Described Activities

Hogan Gidley, Sen. Santorum's National Communications Director

Chuck Hurley, Treasurer, *Leaders for Families PAC* 515-238-9167, Hurley4God@gmail.com

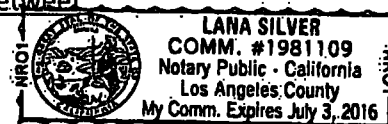
Christopher Marston, Treasurer, Red, White and Blue PAC 540-341-3664  
Chris@ElectionCFO.com

Alice Stewart - Communications Director, Michele Bachmann for President in 2012 campaign. Ms. Stewart publically discussed an endorsement conversation between Mr. Vander Plaats and Congresswoman Bachmann (Ms. Stewart later went to work for Mr. Santorum's campaign after Congresswoman Bachmann's dropped out). <https://twitter.com/alicetweet>  
<https://www.facebook.com/alice.stewart.98>  
501-823-0965 (Radio Studio Call In)

Ray Sullivan Communications Director, Rick Perry for President  
<http://www.linkedin.com/pub/ray-sullivan/4/b7b/448>  
<http://sullivanpublicaffairs.com/>  
(Office phone number: 512-481-0277)  
<https://www.facebook.com/ray.sullivan.5201>

Thank you very much for your prompt attention to this matter.

I affirm under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.



State of California, County of Los Angeles  
Subscribed and sworn to (or affirmed) before me  
on this 10th day of JUNE, 2013.  
by FRED KARGER  
proved to me on the basis of satisfactory evidence  
to be the person(s) who appeared before me.  
Signature: [Signature]

[Signature]  
Signature

6/10/13  
Date





# FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION

## 2012 COMMITTEE INFORMATION

**Name:** RICK SANTORUM FOR PRESIDENT INC.

**Address:** PO BOX 37, VERONA, PA 15147

**Treasurer Name:** Maenza, Nadine

**Type:** P - Presidential

**Designation:** P - Principal Campaign Committee Of A Candidate

**Party:** Republican Party

## FINANCIAL SUMMARY - 2011 Year-End

**From:** 10/01/2011 **To:** 12/31/2011

I. RECEIPTS		\$920,427
II. DISBURSEMENTS		\$831,049
III. CASH SUMMARY		\$278,934
Beginning Cash On Hand	\$189,556	
Ending Cash On Hand	\$278,934	
Net Contributions	\$2,158,703	
Net Operating Expenditures	\$1,898,268	
Debts/Loans Owed By	\$204,836	
Debts/Loans Owed To	\$0	

**SCHEDULE I**  
**(Form 990)**

Department of the Treasury  
Internal Revenue Service  
Name of the organization

**Grants and Other Assistance to Organizations,  
Governments, and Individuals in the United States**

Complete if the organization answered "Yes" to Form 990, Part IV, line 21 or 22.  
▶ Attach to Form 990.

OMB No 1545-0047

**2011**

Open to Public  
Inspection

Employer identification number  
26-0240498

National Organization for Marriage Inc.

**Part I General Information on Grants and Assistance**

- 1 Does the organization maintain records to substantiate the amount of the grants or assistance, the grantees' eligibility for the grants or assistance, and the selection criteria used to award the grants or assistance? ☒ Yes ☐ No
- 2 Describe in Part IV the organization's procedures for monitoring the use of grant funds in the United States.

**Part II Grants and Other Assistance to Governments and Organizations in the United States.** Complete if the organization answered "Yes" to Form 990, Part IV, line 21, for any recipient that received more than \$5,000. Check this box if no one recipient received more than \$5,000.  
Part II can be duplicated if additional space is needed. ☐

(1) Name and address of organization or government	(2) EIN	(3) IRC section if applicable	(4) Amount of cash grant	(5) Amount of non-cash assistance	(6) Method of valuation (book, FMV, appraisal, other)	(7) Description of non-cash assistance	(8) Purpose of grant or assistance
(1) Stand for Marriage Maine 374 Rt. 1 Yarmouth ME 04097	27-0267465	501c4	32,411				general support
(2) MN for Marriage 2355 Fairview Ave N Roseville MN	45-2252188	501c4	250,000				general support
(3) The Family Leader 1100 N Hickory Blvd Pleasant Hill IA	42-1469051	501c4	40,000				general support
(4) FRC Action 801 G St. NW Washington DC	52-1805562	501c4	23,000				general support
(5)							
(6)							
(7)							
(8)							
(9)							
(10)							
(11)							
(12)							

2 Enter total number of section 501(c)(3) and government organizations listed in the line 1 table

3 Enter total number of other organizations listed in the line 1 table

0

4

For Paperwork Reduction Act Notice, see the Instructions for Form 990.

Cat No 50055P

Schedule I (Form 990) (2011)

**SCHEDULE I**  
**(Form 990)**

**Grants and Other Assistance to Organizations,  
Governments, and Individuals in the United States**

Complete if the organization answered "Yes" to Form 990, Part IV, line 21 or 22.

▶ Attach to Form 990.

OMB No 1545-0047

**2011**

Open to Public  
Inspection

Department of the Treasury  
Internal Revenue Service

Name of the organization

National Organization for Marriage Education Fund

Employer identification number

20-7472471

**Part I General Information on Grants and Assistance**

1 Does the organization maintain records to substantiate the amount of the grants or assistance, the grantees' eligibility for the grants or assistance, and the selection criteria used to award the grants or assistance? ☒ Yes ☐ No.

2 Describe in Part IV the organization's procedures for monitoring the use of grant funds in the United States.

**Part II Grants and Other Assistance to Governments and Organizations in the United States.** Complete if the organization answered "Yes" to Form 990, Part IV, line 21, for any recipient that received more than \$5,000. Check this box if no one recipient received more than \$5,000.

Part II can be duplicated if additional space is needed. ▶ ☐

(1) (a) Name and address of organization or government	(b) EIN	(c) IRC section if applicable	(d) Amount of cash grant	(e) Amount of non-cash assistance	(f) Method of valuation (book, FMV, appraisal, other)	(g) Description of non-cash assistance	(h) Purpose of grant or assistance
(1) Education for All 539 Birthstone Cove Memphis TN	20-2583969	501c3	24,123	0			general support
(2) Iowa Family Policy Council 1100 N Hickory Pleasant Hill Iowa	42-1481169	501c3	20,000	0			general support
(3) The Family Leader 1100 N Hickory Pleasant Hill Iowa	42-1489051	501c4	20,000	0			general support
(4) MD Family Alliance 4784 Candlewood Hanover MD	52-2276169	501c3	10,000	0			general support
(5) FRC 801 G St. NW Washington DC	52-1792772	501c3	62,500	0			general support
(6) Illinois Family Institute PO Box 88848 Carol Stream IL	37-1265883	501c3	20,000	0			general support
(7) National Black Church Initiative PO Box 65177 Washington DC	52-2169774	501c3	10,000	0			general support
(8) Proposition 8 Legal Defense Fund 2150 River Plaza Sacramento CA	26-3889881	501c3	30,000	0			general support
(9) Radio Vision Cristiani 419 Broadway Paterson NJ	11-2729585	501c3	25,000	0			general support
(10) NYFRF PO Box 131 Spencerport NY	22-3139279	501c3	10,000	0			general support
(11)							
(12)							

2 Enter total number of section 501(c)(3) and government organizations listed in the line 1 table ▶ 9

3 Enter total number of other organizations listed in the line 1 table ▶ 1

For Paperwork Reduction Act Notice, see the Instructions for Form 990.

Cat No 50055P

Schedule I (Form 990) (2011)



## Iowa Conservative Leader Mired in Controversy After Rick Santorum Endorsement

By ABC News  
Dec 23, 2011 6:00am

ABC News' Shushannah Walshe and Michael Falcone report:

DAVENPORT, Iowa — An Iowa Christian conservative leader who bestowed his highly sought-after endorsement on presidential candidate Rick Santorum this week is now at the center of a controversy over whether he asked for cash in exchange for his public support.

Less than 48-hours after receiving the backing of Bob Vander Plaats, the head of the prominent evangelical group The Family Leader, Santorum disclosed that the prominent Iowan told him he needed money to make the most out of the endorsement.

And sources familiar with talks between the conservative heavyweight and representatives from several of the Republican presidential campaigns went a step further, describing Vander Plaats' tactics as corrupt.

"Clearly the endorsement was for sale — without a doubt," one source said. It's a charge that The Family Leader flatly denied.

"The allegation by an unnamed source that Bob Vander Plaats asked any campaigns for money in exchange for his endorsement is absolutely false," according to a statement issued by the organization on Thursday. The Family Leader said Vander Plaats was unavailable for an interview Thursday.

But even Santorum acknowledged in an interview with CNN that money was among the topics he and Vander Plaats discussed last weekend ahead of Tuesday's endorsement press conference.

"What he talked about was he needed money to promote the endorsement and that that would be important to do that," Santorum told CNN. "There was never a direct ask for me to go out and raise money for it."

The former Pennsylvania senator's statement differs from what he told ABC News on Monday night — just hours before Vander Plaats endorsed him. At a campaign event in Indianola, Iowa, Santorum said the issue of money never came up in his conversations with the Christian leader.

In a statement Santorum's National Communications Director Hogan Gidley said, "I don't know about the discussions other campaigns had, but we did not, nor would we ever agree to raise a single penny for another entity. We're focused on our own campaign and that's where our resources will be spent."

Though Santorum did not specify the dollar amount he and Vander Plaats discussed,

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multiple sources said he was soliciting as much as \$1 million from Santorum and other candidates.

In an interview with the Des Moines Register this week, Vander Plaats said that it was his "ethical responsibility" to essentially put some money where his mouth is.

"You can't say, 'We endorsed you. Now see you later,'" Vander Plaats told the Iowa newspaper. "That's not going to do a lot in the long run."

But one long-time Iowa conservative activist told ABC News, "There is no way he could buy enough ad space in Iowa for a million dollars — couldn't buy that much advertising in a week and a half in Iowa."

ABC News has learned that Vander Plaats tried to solicit money for his endorsement during the last presidential cycle too. A former staffer for Mitt Romney's 2008 presidential bid who is currently unaffiliated with a campaign said Vander Plaats came to them seeking money for his backing if he supported the former Massachusetts governor.

"He wanted to be paid," the former staffer said. "He was clearly looking for a paycheck. There was a conversation about him getting a title, but being a paid consultant was much more important."

The aide said they offered him a title, but never seriously considered paying Vander Plaats. He ended up endorsing Former Arkansas Gov. Mike Huckabee over Romney.

Unlike four years ago, when members of Iowa's evangelical community helped then-candidate Huckabee to a first place finish in the caucuses, no candidate appears to be drawing the same kind of support from the important group of voters.

A well-known conservative figure in the state that ran unsuccessfully for governor in 2010, Vander Plaats' endorsement had been seen as a key indicator of social conservative sentiment.

At a press conference in Urbandale, Iowa on Tuesday, Vander Plaats called Santorum, "the Huckabee in this race."

"I saw him as a champion for the family in the U.S. House, I saw him as a champion for the family in the U.S. Senate. I saw him as a champion for the family on the campaign trail," he said. "I believe Rick Santorum comes from us, just not to us, he comes from us."

Though Thursday's statement from The Family Leader noted the group's board was "was unanimous in their personal support for Rick Santorum," there was no organization-wide endorsement. Instead, Vander Plaats and another Family Leader official Chuck Hurly, both publicly backed Santorum.

But Vander Plaats tried to exert his influence in other ways, suggesting to Michele Bachmann combine forces with another candidate in order to make it easier for social conservatives to rally behind one candidate ahead of Iowa's Jan. 3 caucuses.

"After much prayer and discernment, The Family Leader board members directed Bob to contact Rick Perry, Michele Bachmann, and Rick Santorum to present the concept of merging in order to provide a solution to the fractured vote of caucus-going conservatives," according to the group's statement. "At no time did Mr. Vander Plaats make any specific demands in regard to who should merge with whom."

Bachmann did not take him up on the offer. She has separately won the backing of the former head of The Family Leader as well as more than 100 Iowa pastors.



## **Santorum: Vander Plaats said 'he needed money to promote the endorsement'**

December 22, 2011

Posted by  
CNN Political Reporter Shannon Travis

**Des Moines, Iowa (CNN)** - One of the most influential Christian leaders in Iowa told Republican presidential candidate Rick Santorum "he needed money to promote the endorsement" of the candidate, Santorum told CNN on Wednesday.

The conversation between Santorum and Bob Vander Plaats, president and CEO of the Iowa-based The Family Leader, happened before Vander Plaats personally endorsed Santorum on Tuesday.

"What he talked about was he needed money to promote the endorsement and that that would be important to do that," Santorum said, referring to Vander Plaats.

Yet the candidate added: "There was never a direct ask for me to go out and raise money for it."

The candidate spoke to CNN after a campaign event in Fairfield, Iowa. It appears to be his first detailed, public comments on the issue that was first reported by The Des Moines Register on Tuesday.

The candidate said he last spoke with Vander Plaats over the weekend.

On Tuesday, Vander Plaats personally endorsed Santorum. The Family Leader did not endorse a candidate as an organization.

The group holds sway over many Iowa social conservatives. Vander Plaats' personal nod is among the most coveted among candidates seeking support from those conservatives – a crucial voting bloc in the state's Jan. 3 caucuses.

Hours after the endorsement, the Des Moines Register reported "that Vander Plaats had asked for help in raising money to promote the endorsement."

The paper also reported: "Vander Plaats said he'd like to have the money to do television advertisements to promote his personal endorsement of Santorum, and he urges Santorum backers to contribute money for that purpose."

The Register quoted Vander Plaats saying in a phone interview: "That's part of our ethical responsibility. You can't say, 'We endorsed you. Now see you later.' That's not going to do a lot in the long run."

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"Our endorsement by the board and through [The Family Leader vice president] Chuck [Hurley] and me was all on the merits of the candidates, not on the funds the campaigns could do," Vander Plaats reportedly added.

The report did not mention The Family Leader as a group being involved in the request.

CNN pressed Santorum on exactly what Vander Plaats asked for.

"He didn't say, 'Well I need X dollars from you' or anything like that. No," Santorum said.

Wednesday morning, during an interview with CNN's "American Morning," Vander Plaats said he did not directly ask Santorum for money.

"We would never ask a candidate – and by the way, when you endorse Rick Santorum you probably should also know that you're not asking for \$1 million," Vander Plaats said. "We would never ask a campaign or a candidate for funds. Especially when you do a personal endorsement."

During the interview, Vander Plaats added: "Now my job is going to be to try to mobilize a network of supporters. If I can raise funds to help out Rick Santorum, I'm going to raise funds to help out Rick Santorum. But we're going to do everything in the next 13 days to get the vote out for Rick Santorum."

"We believe Iowa is going to break late and it's going to break fast," Vander Plaats said. "I believe [Santorum] has that opportunity to be the surprise on January 3."

– CNN's Chris Welch contributed to this story.

## The Templetons give huge donations to anti-gay organization

A h/t to *erv* for telling me about this (see her post [here](#)): the 2008 tax returns of the National Organization for Marriage (NOM), listing all their donors (a list that's confidential), were leaked to the Huffington Post. The NOM accuses the Internal Revenue Service itself for the leak.

Established in 2007, the NOM is dedicated to preserving marriage in America as a union only between a male and female. It works tirelessly to quash state bills that allow same-sex marriage and to support initiatives (like [California's Proposition 8](#)) that prohibit it. NOM also fights against adoption by same-sex couples. It's an odious organization that has engaged in many questionable tactics. Here's one tactic, taken from [the Wikipedia article on NOM](#):

In March 2012, NOM documents showing their strategies of pitting the African-American and homosexual communities against each other, of discouraging Latino assimilation, and of painting Obama as a "social radical" were released by a federal judge in Maine and published by the Human Rights Campaign. <sup>[132][133][134]</sup> The revealed tactics were described as "one of the most cynical things I've ever heard" <sup>[135]</sup> and "scary" <sup>[136]</sup> by Julian Bond, Chairman Emeritus of the NAACP. <sup>[137]</sup> The National Black Justice Coalition said that the "documents expose N.O.M. for what it really is – a hate group determined to use African American faith leaders as pawns to push their damaging agenda." <sup>[138]</sup>

You can download a pdf of the donors list [here](#). The most interesting donor is one we know well; he's also the biggest donor by far:

(a) No.	(b) Name, address, and ZIP + 4	(c) Aggregate contributions	(d) Type of contribution
13	John Templeton 601 Pembroke Road Bryn Mawr, PA 19010	\$450,000	Person <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Payroll <input type="checkbox"/> Noncash <input type="checkbox"/> (Complete Part II if there is a noncash contribution)

This appears to be the John Templeton Jr., the son of the founder of the John Templeton Foundation, its current president and chairman, and a notorious supporter of right-wing causes. His wife also gave \$100,000, making a family total of over half a million dollars!



(a) No.	(b) Name, address, and	(c) Aggregate contributions	(d) Type of contribution
16	Josephine Templeton 601 Pembroke Road Bryn Mawr, PA 19010	\$ 100,000	Person <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Payroll <input type="checkbox"/> Noncash <input type="checkbox"/> (Complete Part II if there is a noncash contribution.)

The Knights of Columbus, a Catholic organization, put in their dollop:

(a) No.	(b) Name, address, and ZIP + 4	(c) Aggregate contributions	(d) Type of contribution
14	Knights of Columbus 1 Columbus Plaza New Haven, CT 06510	\$ 250,000	Person <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Payroll <input type="checkbox"/> Noncash <input type="checkbox"/> (Complete Part II if there is a noncash contribution.)

And, finally, Mitt Romney's political action committee (PAC), Free and Strong America. Romney, of course, will be the Republican candidate in the next Presidential race:

(a) No.	(b) Name, address, and ZIP + 4	(c) Aggregate contributions	(d) Type of contribution
38	Free and Strong America PO Box 79226 Belmont, MA 02479	\$ 10,000	Person <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Payroll <input type="checkbox"/> Noncash <input type="checkbox"/> (Complete Part II if there is a noncash contribution.)

Who knows what other nefarious organizations are supported by the Templetons?

I think we're all familiar with the political agenda of both Templeton and his Foundation (right wing, supportive of untrammelled capitalism and free enterprise), as well as the Foundation's aim to show a consilience between science and religion. A lot of scientists who take Templeton money, and are hence paraded on the Templeton website as their pet scientists, assert that so long as Templeton gives them money to do pure science, untainted by religion, it's okay. I disagree. And I agree with what Abbie says:

I recognize that John Templeton the person and The Templeton Foundation as a foundation are different entities. However considering the personal financial and political causes taken up by Johnny boy, its hard to take the mission statement of the organization he heads seriously.

"The John Templeton Foundation serves as a philanthropic catalyst for discoveries relating to the Big Questions of human purpose and ultimate reality. We support research on subjects ranging from complexity, evolution, and infinity to creativity, forgiveness, *love*, and free will."

(It's worth noting that the Dalai Lama, who recently won the £1,000,000 Templeton Prize, considers gay sex to be "sexual misconduct.")

Indeed. As the political and religious agenda of Templeton becomes more evident, the pocketing of Templeton funds by money-hungry scientists becomes more embarrassing. Really, are the political views and activities of the president and chairman completely irrelevant to whether its money constitutes honorable funds? After all, that money comes from the same source: the mutual-fund empire of John Templeton senior.

I ask those who take Templeton money if they'd still take it were the Templeton Foundation headed by someone like David Duke, a politician and former member of the Ku Klux Klan who continues his racist activities. Suppose Duke were to continue to agitate against blacks and immigration on his own time, donating his own money for those causes, while running the "Duke Foundation" that gave money to scientists with the aim of finding a consilience between science and ethnic diversity. Suppose that some of that money were go to pure science alone, without any racial connotations or strings attached. Would it then be okay to take that money? If not, why not?

How right-wing and pro-religion does an organization have to be before scientists will no longer accept its money? The sad thing is that most scientists who pocket the funds don't even consider this question.

## National Review Online

### Why Gay Marriage and Conservatism Are Incompatible

By Frank Schubert

March 25, 2013 6:52 PM

Same-sex “marriage” advocates are orchestrating a series of high-profile public events intended to influence the justices of the U.S. Supreme Court to impose same-sex marriage on an unwilling public. The announcements of several Republicans who say they now support gay marriage provide clear evidence of this. The meme is that there is a growing consensus among conservatives that same-sex marriage should be accepted.

You can’t support gay marriage and claim to be a conservative any more than you can be “pro-choice” on abortion and claim to be a conservative. Is Michael Bloomberg or Arnold Schwarzenegger a conservative? Any Republican who supports same-sex marriage is in a similar boat.

Homosexual activists are hoping that these statements by moderate or liberal elites in the GOP will appeal to Republicans who make up a majority on the Court — especially Justice Anthony Kennedy. The fact remains, though, that support for true marriage is rock-solid among Republicans in general, and conservatives in particular.

A survey conducted on Election Day, 2012, for the National Organization for Marriage (NOM) by respected GOP pollster Kellyanne Conway revealed that 60 percent of American voters who actually cast ballots in the last presidential election believe that marriage is the union of one man and one woman. The survey found that Republicans believe in this understanding of marriage by a margin of 86 percent to 10 percent, and those who identify as conservatives are even stronger in support of traditional marriage — by a margin of 87 percent to 9 percent.

Having managed many state marriage campaigns, including a campaign in favor of Proposition 8 in California, I can tell you that there is a far larger percentage of Democrats who support true marriage than there are Republicans who favor gay “marriage.” Exit polls in California revealed that 36 percent of Democrats supported Proposition 8, including 70 percent of African Americans. A large percentage of Democrats supported the marriage amendment in North Carolina last year, helping to propel it to passage with 61 percent overall voter approval. The NOM survey found that 40 percent of Democrats support the traditional definition of marriage.

I am still waiting for the newspaper headline that says, “Large Percentage of Democrats Oppose Gay Marriage.” Somehow, I suspect it will never appear.

— *Frank Schubert is the political director of the National Organization for Marriage and was the campaign manager in the successful Proposition 8 campaign in California, along with other marriage campaigns, including North Carolina’s.*

# Think Progress

## **Bob Vander Plaats' Pay-For-Play Scandal: Charged A Million Bucks For Endorsement, Asked Candidates To Drop Out**

By Zack Ford and Igor Volsky on Dec 23, 2011 at 10:09 am

Bob Vander Plaats' endorsement of Rick Santorum has produced a backlash among conservatives in Iowa, some of whom are accusing the FAMiLY LEADER president of engaging in "pay for play" schemes and selling his coveted support to the highest bidder. Earlier this week, Santorum admitted that Vander Plaats approached the campaign with an indirect solicitation of money to help promote his support, but now other sources familiar with the talks between Vander Plaats and GOP candidates are characterizing the tactics as "corrupt."

"Clearly the endorsement was for sale — without a doubt," one source told ABC News' Shushannah Walshe and Michael Falcone, stressing that Vander Plaats had tried to receive money for his support in past election cycles:

Though Santorum did not specify the dollar amount he and Vander Plaats discussed, **multiple sources said he was soliciting as much as \$1 million from Santorum and other candidates.**

In an interview with the Des Moines Register this week, Vander Plaats said that it was his "ethical responsibility" to essentially put some money where his mouth is. "You can't say, 'We endorsed you. Now see you later,'" Vander Plaats told the Iowa newspaper. "That's not going to do a lot in the long run." But one long-time Iowa conservative activist told ABC News, "There is no way he could buy enough ad space in Iowa for a million dollars — couldn't buy that much advertising in a week and a half in Iowa."

ABC News has learned that Vander Plaats tried to solicit money for his endorsement during the last presidential cycle too. **A former staffer for Mitt Romney's 2008 presidential bid who is currently unaffiliated with a campaign said Vander Plaats came to them seeking money for his backing if he supported the former Massachusetts governor.** "He wanted to be paid," the former staffer said. "He was clearly looking for a paycheck. There was a conversation about him getting a title, but being a paid consultant was much more important."

Meanwhile, Rick Santorum revealed yesterday that Michele Bachmann was not the only candidate Vander Plaats called to suggest she drop out. Both he and Rick Perry received simulcasts.

This seems to also raise speculation about who exactly Vander Plaats actually wanted to endorse. Last month, he indicated that he had narrowed the endorsement down to four candidates: Santorum, Bachmann, Perry, and Newt Gingrich. During the weeks after that announcement, The FAMiLY LEADER's attention seemed to be focused entirely on raising support for Gingrich, saying "he's had a life transformation," accepting that he "asked God's forgiveness" for his infidelities, and accepting his affirming letter of the group's "marriage pledge."

While Santorum may be correct that conservatives like Vander Plaats were just trying to unite social conservatives, it may be that Vander Plaats was building support for Gingrich, the thrice-married former speaker whose complicated marital past raised concerns for certain Evangelical leaders. After all, Gingrich donated \$350,000 last year to his campaign against the Iowa Supreme Court Justices who ruled in favor of marriage equality, which is quite the "pay for play." Santorum, Bachmann, and Perry have the social conservative credentials Vander Plaats would want to endorse without the baggage of Gingrich's infidelities, but if they had dropped out, he could have endorsed Gingrich without it looking like blatant *quid pro quo*.

## **Presidential Hopefuls: Rick Santorum**

### **Catholic Former Senator Lives Out His Devotion to the Sanctity of Life**

*by Charlotte Hays, Register Correspondent Monday, Jan 09, 2012 1:18 PM Comments (8)*

WASHINGTON — All GOP presidential hopefuls are in the pro-life camp, but Rick Santorum is routinely hailed by pro-lifers as “a hero.”

As a member of the U.S. Senate from 1995 until 2007, Santorum was the prime author and champion of key pro-life bills, including the Born-Alive Infants Protection Act, a ban on partial-birth abortion, and the Unborn Victims of Violence Act, which makes it a separate crime if an unborn child is harmed or killed during the commission of a stipulated list of federal crimes.

Santorum not only has signed the Susan B. Anthony Pro-Life Presidential Pledge, but he has helped raise money for that organization, too.

Santorum believes that abortion is never justified, including in cases of rape or incest. During a Republican presidential debate last summer in Ames, Iowa, when panelist Byron York noted that many Americans favor abortion under certain circumstances, Santorum didn't flinch or back off from his uncompromising position.

“You know, the Supreme Court of the United States, in a recent case, said that a man who committed rape could not be killed, would not be subjected to the death penalty; yet the child conceived as a result of that rape could be,” he said. “That sounds to me like a country that doesn't have its morals correct. That child did nothing wrong. That child is an innocent victim.”

“What I can tell you about Rick Santorum,” said Maria Vitale Gallagher of the Pennsylvania Pro-Life Federation, “is that he has been pro-life not only in the public sphere, but in his private life. His pro-life witness is phenomenal.”

“He's very pro-life and a good man,” said David O'Steen, executive director of the National Right to Life Committee. “As a family, the Santorums have faced challenges, and they have risen to these challenges and are a great family and a great couple.”

## Family Life

The challenges to which O'Steen and others interviewed for this story referred concern two of the Santorum children. Shortly after Santorum led the fight against partial-birth abortion, his wife, Karen, a nurse, learned that the child she was carrying had a genetic defect.

The Santorums, who are Catholic, were urged to end the pregnancy. They refused. Their son, Gabriel, was born on Oct. 11, 1996, five months before his due date, and lived just two hours.

After Gabriel died in the hospital, the Santorums took their child home briefly so that their other children could meet their brother. "We wanted them to know that there was a baby and that his life was precious and that baby in the womb was real," Santorum said in an interview on CBN, the Christian Broadcasting Network.

Karen Santorum wrote a book, *Letters to Gabriel*, about the loss of the baby. The foreword to the book was by Blessed Teresa of Calcutta. In the book, Karen admitted that the death was "a terrible nightmare," but also wrote to Gabriel that "the only reassurance for your daddy and me is our faith in God. I have learned to surrender even more to his protection and care."

The second challenge came when the Santorums learned that another child would be born with a rare condition called Trisomy 18, which can cause heart defects, failure to grow normally and other problems. Most children with Trisomy 18, in which there are three No. 18 chromosomes rather than the normal two, die soon after being born, with only about 10% surviving past the first year. But those who make it past this benchmark sometimes attain adulthood.

Isabella Santorum was born in 2008. A doctor treating Isabella, then in hospice care, told the couple that their best hope was that a cold or some other minor illness would carry her off. The Santorums decided to remove their daughter from hospice so they could find doctors who would work to keep her alive.

Santorum later wrote a column for *The Philadelphia Inquirer* detailing how difficult it was to find doctors who were able to see Isabella as "a wanted and loved daughter and sister, as well as a beautiful gift from God," rather than a disabled child waiting to die. Santorum addressed Isabella by name at the end of one GOP debate, telling his daughter that he would catch a late flight home to be with her. He also mentioned her and his other children in his speech on the night of the Iowa caucuses.

## The Marriage Issue

Santorum has been similarly staunch in taking a stand against same-sex "marriage," which has earned him the enmity of homosexual-activist groups. One homosexual activist, Dan Savage, held a contest to see who could come up with a sexually explicit term to be called a "santorum." The Internet search engine company Google has refused to remove the ugly neologism.

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"Rick Santorum has been a hero of the movement in every sense on marriage, life and religious liberty. No one has been braver or taken more hits for his courage than Rick," said Maggie Gallagher, co-founder of the National Organization for Marriage.

For Santorum, the issues of marriage and abortion aren't just social issues — they spill over into his economic philosophy.

"You cannot have limited government if you have broken families, because someone has to pick up the pieces; and the ones who pick up the pieces are the taxpayers," Santorum has said.

While some argue that an emphasis on social issues is detrimental to a politician's chances of being elected, Santorum on Dec. 20 got two endorsements from family-issues leaders that some said could provide the boost he needed in the Jan. 3 Iowa caucuses to make him a first-tier candidate.

Santorum ended up a handful of votes away from first place, which was won by Mitt Romney. The former Massachusetts governor won 24.6% of the vote in the nation's first presidential election-year contest, while Santorum won 24.5%.

Santorum was endorsed by Bob Vander Plaats, a leading Christian conservative in Iowa, and Chuck Hurley, another family-issues stalwart. Both are affiliated with The Family Leader, which Vander Plaats founded. Hurley is president of the affiliated Iowa Family Policy Center.

"We care about any issue affecting the family, from the sanctity of human life to preserving a biblical view of marriage, and even issues such as gambling and economic issues," said Julie Summa, spokeswoman for The Family Leader.

Summa said that the board of The Family Leader unanimously supported Santorum but decided that only the two leaders, not the organization, would endorse him because some of their conservative Christian constituency supports other candidates.

"When you listen to Senator Santorum speak," Summa added, "he ties everything back to the family, including economics. Our economy is better when we have strong families."

After Santorum's dazzling finish, the political action committee CatholicVote.org endorsed him. The PAC's president, Brian Burch, told the group's 600,000 email subscribers Jan. 4 that he wanted CatholicVote.org to endorse him "months ago," but that "it wasn't clear whether Santorum would get the traction he needed to compete."

Those doubts faded Jan. 3.

## Economics

As might be expected for a candidate who puts an emphasis on the responsibilities of the family, Santorum proposes shrinking the role of government. He wants to roll back regulations, which he says kill jobs, and he would reduce taxes and simplify the tax code.

Santorum supports a balanced-budget amendment as a way to force the federal government to be fiscally responsible. The Club for Growth, which supports the free market, gave Santorum a 77% favorable rating for his last two years in the Senate. This is slightly above the Club for Growth's 73% favorable rating for Senate Republicans for the same period.

The organization had no scorecard before that, but Santorum had a cumulative favorable rating of 76% on the scorecard of the National Taxpayers Union, another limited-government group, for his career both in the Senate and before that for four years in the U.S. House of Representatives. The average National Taxpayers Union score for Republicans in both houses for the same period was 71%.

"He has, in general, an above-average voting record on taxes and deserves credit for leading the fight for welfare reform during the 1990s and similarly for leading the fight for Social Security reform in the George W. Bush years," said Barney Keller, spokesman for the Club for Growth.

"He started off as a very strong fiscal conservative," said Nathan Benfield, director of policy analysis at the Commonwealth Foundation, a free-market group in Pennsylvania. "As a champion of welfare reform, he not only helped improve welfare programs, but he also saved money for the taxpayers. In his later years in office, he supported deficit spending."

Santorum disappointed some small-government types with his support for what is called Medicare Part D, George W. Bush's prescription-drug plan for older citizens. CNN reported earlier this year that Santorum now calls this vote a "mistake." Supporters of Medicare D, arguing that it was right because it helps seniors pay for necessary medicines, would disagree.

Santorum and free-market advocates such as the Club for Growth or Commonwealth Foundation also parted company over several of his votes against free trade. Santorum voted in 1993 against the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA), supported a high tariff on goods imported from China, and co-sponsored a bill to authorize tariffs on imported steel.

Benfield suggests that this might have been an almost inevitable vote because of the makeup of Santorum's constituency, who may be socially conservative but work in manufacturing jobs and believe free trade harms them.

David Taylor, a member of the board of directors of the Pennsylvania Manufacturers' Association, not unexpectedly supports Santorum's stand on free trade. The organization doesn't endorse candidates, but it has endorsed Santorum's economic plan.

"We see Rick Santorum as the leader speaking most closely to what we believe and as having the most visionary plan," said Taylor. Taylor said that three oil plants in the Philadelphia area may



close, taking hundreds of jobs with them, because of a new spate of federal regulations. He believes that Santorum is the candidate most likely to roll back such regulation.

### **The Specter in His Past**

Although Santorum has proven his bona fides in the eyes of many, some say they hold it against him that, in the 2004 Republican Senate primary in Pennsylvania, Santorum supported pro-choice liberal Republican Arlen Specter, who later switched parties and became a Democrat, against Sen. Pat Toomey, a pro-life candidate.

The Bush administration threw its support behind Specter. As a leader in the Senate, Santorum was expected to do the same.

"The thing that still irks conservatives is that Santorum went above and beyond [what was called for] to hurt Toomey's chances," said Pennsylvania consultant Ryan Safik, who worked on the Toomey campaign.

Toomey, who was elected to the Senate in 2010, lost to Specter by a smaller than expected margin, leaving a bitter taste for some who say that Santorum's active support made the difference.

Quin Hillyer, a former Capitol Hill staff member, journalist and senior fellow at the Center for Individual Freedom, whose mission is to defend individual freedoms guaranteed by the Constitution, has no such reservations.

"I value genuineness in politicians — people who are the same in public as in private," Hillyer said. "Rick Santorum is one of the most genuine elected officials I have ever come across in Washington."

Read more: <http://www.ncregister.com/site/article/presidential-hopefuls-rick-santorum1/#ixzz2VPn3vLM9>

###

GO

(e.g. Donors, Politicians, Corporations and more)



2012 PRESIDENTIAL

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2 records found in 0.377 seconds.

**Total for this search: \$5,000****Search Criteria:**

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Donor State: CA

Cycle selected: 2012

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- Sort by Date (Descending)
- Sort by Amount
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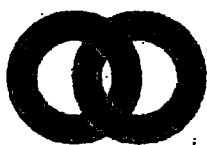
- 1

Candidate	Contributor	Employer	Date	Amount
Santorum, Rick	CASTER, BARBARA MRS EL CAJON, CA 92019	HOMEMAKER	1/26/12	\$2,500
Santorum, Rick	CASTER, TERRENCE R MR EL CAJON, CA 92019	THE CASTER COMPANIES	1/26/12	\$2,500

1  
NOTE: All the numbers on this page are for the 2012 election cycle and based on Federal Election Commission data released electronically on 3/25/13.

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NATIONAL  
ORGANIZATION  
FOR MARRIAGE

## **NOM Congratulates Rick Santorum on Extraordinary Victories**

February 7, 2012 at 9:00 am

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: February 8, 2012

CONTACT: Anath Hartmann or Elizabeth Ray (703-683-5004)

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### **Former Pennsylvania Senator wins in Colorado, Minnesota and Missouri; has signed NOM's Marriage Pledge**

**WASHINGTON, D.C.** - Brian Brown, the president of the National Organization for Marriage (NOM), today congratulated former U.S. Sen. Rick Santorum on his extraordinary victories in Colorado, Minnesota and Missouri. Santorum has long been an ally of the National Organization for Marriage, writing many fundraising letters on the group's behalf over the years.

"NOM congratulates Rick Santorum for his extraordinary victories on Tuesday – winning a clean sweep in Colorado, Minnesota and Missouri," said Brown. "This is the first time that more than one state voted on the same day and Santorum, who has signed NOM's Marriage Pledge, won them all, firmly establishing himself as a major factor in the presidential race."

With his previous victory in Iowa, Santorum has now won four state contests, more than any other candidate. Santorum, Romney and Newt Gingrich have signed the NOM Marriage Pledge. Only Ron Paul, who has said that civil marriage should be abolished all together, has refused. Paul is the only candidate who has failed to win a single primary or caucus. Newt Gingrich won in South Carolina and Mitt Romney won in New Hampshire, Florida and Nevada. NOM has actively opposed Paul's candidacy and maintains the website [www.wrongonmarriage.com](http://www.wrongonmarriage.com) to inform voters about his radical views.

"Preserving marriage as the union of one man and one woman is an important issue in the GOP presidential race, and we will continue to let voters know where the candidates stand on marriage," Brown said.

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# Think Progress

By Zack Ford and Igor Volsky on Dec 23, 2011 at 10:09 am

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Meanwhile, Rick Santorum revealed yesterday that Michele Bachmann was not the only candidate Vander Plaats called to suggest she drop out. Both he and Rick Perry received simulcasts.

This seems to also raise speculation about who exactly Vander Plaats actually wanted to endorse. Last month, he indicated that he had narrowed the endorsement down to four candidates: Santorum, Bachmann, Perry, and Newt Gingrich. During the weeks after that announcement, The FAMiLY LEADER's attention seemed to be focused entirely on raising support for Gingrich, saying "he's had a life transformation," accepting that he "asked God's forgiveness" for his infidelities, and accepting his affirming letter of the group's "marriage pledge."

While Santorum may be correct that conservatives like Vander Plaats were just trying to unite social conservatives, it may be that Vander Plaats was building support for Gingrich, the thrice-married former speaker whose complicated marital past raised concerns for certain Evangelical leaders. After all, Gingrich donated \$350,000 last year to his campaign against the Iowa Supreme Court Justices who ruled in favor of marriage equality, which is quite the "pay for play." Santorum, Bachmann, and Perry have the social conservative credentials Vander Plaats would want to endorse without the baggage of Gingrich's infidelities, but if they had dropped out, he could have endorsed Gingrich without it looking like blatant *quid pro quo*.

# National Strategy for Winning the Marriage Battle



Prepared by the National Organization for Marriage  
December 15, 2009

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## National Strategy for Winning the Marriage Battle

### *Two Million for Marriage*

The goal of the Two Million for Marriage effort is to use the Obama administration's priority of the repeal of DOMA to rally a nationwide donor and activist base, recruiting two million activists and 50,000 donors by the election of 2010. We have already launched a \$1 million e-mail, direct mail, and automated call campaign and have gained over 500,000 activists and roughly 20,000 new donors in our first few months of this effort. Senator Rick Santorum has served as the face of this effort through e-mail and direct mail. Senator Santorum has recently agreed to use his voice in a nationwide automated call effort to solicit activists and donations. An additional \$2 million will allow us to reach our goal of two million activists and an additional 20,000 donors by March of 2010—well before our own timetable of the election of 2010.

NOM 2009-2010 Budget: Two Million for Marriage—501(c)(4) ... \$3,000,000  
2010 Need..... \$2,000,000

### *State Emergency Reserve Fund*

We have to be ready for a decisive, rapid and effective response in whatever states gay marriage advocates decide to act to push gay marriage. Such a state emergency fund will also act as a discouragement to politicians tempted by their base to push this divisive issue on their constituents.

Given the threats of intimidation to donors who support marriage in California and nationwide, we face a serious hurdle in getting state ballot initiatives and candidate campaigns funded because donors must be disclosed. However, if NOM makes a contribution from its own resources that are not specifically designated for one of these efforts donor identities are NOT disclosed. It is critical that we have a reserve fund to give to these efforts to ensure victory and protect donor identity. Our goal is to raise \$2 million for this reserve fund before the 2010 elections.

NOM 2009-2010 Budget: State Emergency Fund—501(c)(4) ..... \$2,000,000  
2010 Need..... \$1,500,000

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE DISTRICT OF MAINE

NATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR  
MARRIAGE and  
AMERICAN PRINCIPLES IN ACTION,

Plaintiffs

v.

WALTER F. MCKEE, ET AL.

Defendants.

Civil No. 1:09-cv-00538

**NOM Deposition Exhibit 12:**  
**"National Strategy for Winning the Marriage Battle."**  
**dated December 15, 2009**

[THIS DOCUMENT WAS PREVIOUSLY FILED UNDER SEAL AS DOCKET ITEM 132-2]



NATIONAL  
ORGANIZATION  
FOR MARRIAGE

## Santorum Surge? Bob Vander Plaats and Chuck Hurley Endorse

December 20, 2011 at 2:30 pm

*The New York Times* [The Caucus](#) blog on two major endorsements of Rick Santorum by prominent Iowa social conservative leaders:



Two weeks before the Republican nominating contest opens at the Iowa caucuses, former Senator Rick Santorum of Pennsylvania has won a highly coveted endorsement from one of the state's social conservative leaders.

Bob Vander Plaats, who has sought to put his imprint on the Republican presidential race for months, announced Tuesday that he would support Mr. Santorum. Mr. Vander Plaats and other evangelical Christians have talked openly about their struggle to unite behind one candidate, but he urged others to follow his lead.

Mr. Santorum, campaigning Tuesday in Pella, Iowa, said the endorsement demonstrates how evangelicals in the state increasingly "see this as the campaign that is going to be the conservative alternative."

... Chuck Hurley, president of the Iowa Family Policy Center, which opposes same-sex marriage, also endorsed Mr. Santorum. "I urge every undecided Iowa caucusgoer to take a close look at Rick, to study the scriptures, to pray hard," Mr. Hurley said. "For above all, we answer to God for our vote."

This entry was written by NOM Staff, posted on at 2:30 pm, filed under [Election Watch 2012](#), [Iowa](#), [Marriage Election Watch](#), [Same Sex Marriage](#). Bookmark the [permalink](#). Follow any comments here with the [RSS feed for this post](#). Both comments and trackbacks are currently closed.

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## **Iowa evangelicals skeptical they can unite behind one candidate for caucuses**

**Jennifer Jacobs**

7:38 PM, Dec 20, 2011

Former U.S. Sen. Rick Santorum of Pennsylvania speaks to local residents during a campaign stop at the Monarch restaurant Tuesday, Dec. 20, 2011, in Pella, Iowa

Division amid Iowa's evangelicals is so deep that it's extremely unlikely they will unite behind one candidate in the two weeks before the caucuses, evangelical leaders agreed Tuesday, after the influential Family Leader organization announced it would not endorse in the race.

That deepens fears among some Christian conservatives that their vote will be fractured among three or more candidates, said Steve Scheffler, president of the Iowa Faith & Freedom Coalition.

"It's maddening," he said.

In fact, two Christian conservative leaders on Tuesday asked that a couple of candidates drop out of the race.

"Why can't the top three or so pro-family candidates come together and figure out who has the talents for president, who has the talents for other roles?" said Family Leader activist Chuck Hurley, who endorsed Rick Santorum Tuesday. "And those people could quickly ... vault into first place and win the caucuses and win the nomination."

That's not bound to happen, either, other Iowa conservatives said.

"Let's face it — these candidates have spent too much money, too much time, too much energy to decide, 'I don't want to do this. I'm going to throw my support to Joe Blow,'" Scheffler said.

None of the candidates has indicated any willingness to drop out of the race.

Hurley and Family Leader CEO Bob Vander Plaats on Tuesday personally endorsed Santorum, but said the Christian advocacy organization's seven-member board will remain neutral.

Most of the evangelical devotion is split between Santorum, Michele Bachmann and Rick Perry, the leaders said, while Newt Gingrich and others have gained scattered support.

Vander Plaats called Bachmann on Saturday to ask her to consider merging her campaign with another candidate's, but didn't suggest whether he thought she should be president or vice president, Bachmann spokeswoman Alice Stewart said.

Christian conservatives have been considered a key bloc in building support to win the Iowa caucuses, from Bob Dole in 1988 and 1996 to George W. Bush in 2000 to Mike Huckabee in 2008. In the Des Moines Register's late November Iowa Poll, 38 percent of likely caucusgoers identified themselves as born again or fundamentalist Christians. An even greater bloc, 46 percent, considered themselves very conservative on social issues such as abortion and gay marriage.

Crafting a unified front among social conservatives has become a bitter fight for those worried that a split vote will hand a win on Jan. 3 to a Republican they consider too moderate: Mitt Romney.

One Iowa activist threatened to "burn (Vander Plaats') body, drag it through the streets and hang it from a bridge," if the Family Leader didn't endorse the Iowan's candidate, Hurley told reporters at a news conference at an Urbandale hotel.

#### **Vander Plaats asked for fundraising aid**

Meanwhile, The Des Moines Register confirmed Tuesday that Vander Plaats had asked for help in raising money to promote the endorsement.

Santorum spokesman Hogan Gidley said his campaign made no deal to drum up cash to pay to help promote the endorsement.

"I don't know about the discussions other campaigns had, but we never agreed to raise a single penny," Gidley said. "We're focused on our own campaign, and that's where our resources will be spent."

Vander Plaats said he'd like to have the money to do television advertisements to promote his personal endorsement of Santorum, and he urges Santorum backers to contribute money for that purpose.

Questioned about asking for help to raise money, Vander Plaats told the Register in a telephone interview, "That's part of our ethical responsibility. You can't say, 'We endorsed you. Now see you later.' That's not going to do a lot in the long run." Although candidates with more campaign cash could be more viable, that wasn't a factor the Family Leader considered, he said.

"Our endorsement by the board and through Chuck and me was all on the merits of the candidates, not on the funds the campaigns could do," Vander Plaats said.

Vander Plaats said he would share with Santorum the voter lists he compiled while working last year to oust Iowa Supreme Court justices who ruled in favor of legalizing same-sex marriage.

"I'm going to mobilize whatever resources I have at my disposal to advocate for him," Vander Plaats said. "I will not tear down another candidate, because we have other good candidates in this race, and if one of those candidates emerges as our nominee, I will get fully behind that candidate."

#### **Many evangelicals say they're undecided**

Prominent Christian conservative leaders are canceling each other out now, said conservative radio host Steve Deace, a West Des Moines Republican.

"Today was a very good day for Ron Paul, and every good day for Ron Paul is a good day for Mitt Romney, because I think we all know Ron Paul is not going to be the nominee," Deace said. "The party and liberal media are going to destroy him."

Several evangelical voters said Tuesday they're feeling angst over whom to choose.

"I tell you, I really haven't made my mind up between the three. I just really haven't," said Mike Root, a pastor at an Independence church, who is torn between Bachmann, Perry and Santorum.

A Family Leader endorsement probably wouldn't have swayed him, Root said at a Bachmann event, but he added: "I do respect Vander Plaats because he's a real man of God and has stood for the Biblical principles that we feel very strongly about."

Karen Steffen, an anti-abortion activist from Maquoketa, heard Perry speak over the noon hour Tuesday, but she hasn't decided which candidate she will support. She also is uncertain whether social conservatives will come together.

"I am praying for God's wisdom on that," said Steffen, former director of religious education at Sacred Heart Catholic Church. "The more we pray, the more he will give us the wisdom."

Irene Blom of Pella, the Republican Party's Marion County chairwoman, cautioned social conservatives against staying home on caucus night.

"People who call themselves Christians have to wake up," and participate, Blom said after introducing Santorum to about 50 people who came to hear him speak at a Pella restaurant. She remains unaligned with any candidate, she said.

Joyce Fuller, a retired voter from Independence, doesn't want Romney to win the caucuses.

"He scares me," said Fuller, who backs Bachmann.

#### **Santorum believes he's got momentum**

Santorum was munching on a cinnamon roll from Jaarsma Bakery after a campaign stop in Pella when he found out about Vander Plaats' and Hurley's endorsements.

"There's a lot of good people out here running, and I'm sure it was a tough decision. I think it shows that we're the candidate right now that has the momentum, that has the message that's resonating to the people of Iowa," Santorum said.

Santorum has campaigned in Iowa far more days than any other candidate, but his support has remained in single digits in most polls.

Santorum had heard rumors Monday that the Family Leader was going to endorse Perry, whose campaign has more money. Then he'd heard Tuesday morning that the group wasn't endorsing anybody.

No endorsement would have been better than a Perry endorsement, Santorum said. "Now this is better than nothing — a lot better than nothing," he said of Vander Plaats' and Hurley's personal endorsements.

Bachmann, during a campaign stop in Independence Tuesday morning, said many in the evangelical community are with her, even without the Family Leader's nod.

"We have over 100 pastors across Iowa who already have come out in support of my candidacy... I am an evangelical. I gave my life to Jesus Christ when I was 16 years old. I am not ashamed of my faith and people recognize in Iowa that I will stand up for religious liberty," Bachmann told reporters.

The seven-member Family Leader board last month crossed off four candidates from consideration: Herman Cain, Jon Huntsman, Ron Paul and Mitt Romney.

Four remained on the list of possibilities: Perry, Santorum, Bachmann and Newt Gingrich, but board members had been agonizing over how to reach consensus on just one candidate.

Evangelical ministers around Iowa led a loud outcry in protest of an endorsement of the thrice-married Gingrich, whose character they have called into question.

It has been more than four weeks since the Family's Leader's Thanksgiving Family Forum on Nov. 22, attended by six GOP candidates.

Vander Plaats flew to Tennessee Thursday to meet with national Christian conservative leaders. Family Leader board members met Friday to hash this over, and again Monday night.

— Tony Leys, Jason Noble and William Petroski contributed to this report.

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# Mother Jones



## Rick Santorum's Big, Anti-Gay Ally

The National Organization for Marriage boosted the former senator's presidential campaign in Iowa. It could do the same in New Hampshire.

By Stephanie Mencimer on Tue. January 10, 2012 4:00 AM PDT



**2012 GOP presidential candidate Rick Santorum** James Colburn/ZUMA Press

When Rick Santorum suddenly surged in the polls in the days leading up to the Iowa caucuses, his rising popularity owed in part to a last-minute super-PAC ad buy that helped get his mug on the airwaves. But Santorum also got another boost from one of his anti-gay allies, the National Organization for Marriage (NOM), which hammered one of the ex-senator's main rivals—Rep. Ron Paul, the libertarian from Texas.

Now the group is angling for a replay in New Hampshire, where it has already been waging a contentious battle to repeal the state's popular same-sex marriage law. (The state Legislature could vote on whether to repeal the law any day now.) NOM announced Monday that it plans to run a \$50,000 independent-expenditure campaign against Paul in the hours before the crucial Tuesday primary. The group started running TV ads online on Friday

and calling voters across the state to fill them in on Paul's failure to adequately oppose gay marriage.

### **GOP Primary Predictor**

New Hampshire Jan. 10



Think you're smarter than a CNN pundit? Predict the next winner with our [interactive app](#).

NOM has tried this strategy before, in advance of last week's Iowa caucuses. Paul was rising in the Iowa polls until mid-December, when he became the subject of a major negative TV ad campaign paid for by NOM. Starting on December 28, the group spent about \$80,000 on ads hammering Paul for being the only major GOP presidential candidate who had failed to sign its pledge to oppose same-sex marriage. It also launched a website called wrongonmarriage.com, which highlighted Paul's past statements opposing a constitutional amendment defining marriage as a union between a man and a woman, as well his comments supporting the right of gays to marry.

NOM's ad campaign may have been a key part of Santorum's success. To the evangelical activists who dominate the Iowa caucuses, gay marriage is a line-in-the-sand issue. Paul clearly didn't pass the litmus test: Despite his claims of being personally opposed to homosexuality, he believes the states should have the right to make same-sex marriage legal. NOM made sure voters knew about that.

Whether NOM's New Hampshire effort will benefit Santorum as much as it did in Iowa is an open question. New Hampshire's GOP primary voters are far less socially conservative than those in Iowa. Granite State voters have booed Santorum for his gay-marriage views, and Paul is running much farther ahead

in the polls there than Santorum. Still, NOM's attack on Paul certainly can't hurt Santorum, whose campaign has still remained badly underfunded compared with his competitors.

Santorum has a long history with NOM, the group behind ballot initiatives across the country attempting to ban gay marriage, including California's Proposition 8 measure. One of NOM's staunchest supporters, Santorum has frequently fundraised for the group in the past. (Santorum and group's president, Brian Brown, also reportedly attend the same Catholic church in Virginia.)

NOM board member Neil Corkery was a loyal Santorum campaign donor when he was in Congress. And when Santorum was gearing up to run for president in the summer of 2010, NOM helped introduce him to voters in the critical state of Iowa. That year, Santorum headlined NOM's "Judge Bus" tour, traveling the state in a successful effort to persuade Iowa voters to eject three state supreme court justices who in 2009 overturned a state ban on gay marriage as unconstitutional. (All three judges lost the election.)

It's no surprise, then, that NOM was pleased with the outcome of the Iowa caucuses. While the nonprofit group's tax-exempt status prevents it from explicitly endorsing a candidate, Maggie Gallagher, the group's cofounder, gushed on NOM's blog that Santorum was a "Catholic hero." Following his speech on Tuesday, she wrote:

Rick Santorum gave a magnificent speech tonight. It was an expression, a flowering in a way I do not think America has seen in my lifetime of Catholic culture. He made his economic message more than a question of self-interest—he made it a moral cause. He connected the dignity of every human life, with the dignity not only of work, but every human being who is made in the image of his Creator to be a creator—a worker, and not just a consumer.

God bless him, God bless him. This is a serious fight.

Santorum and NOM are natural allies. When it comes to opposing gay rights, Santorum has few rivals in the GOP. His anti-gay rhetoric earned him a personal jihad from Seattle sex columnist Dan Savage after Santorum compared homosexuality to bestiality and pedophilia in 2003. Savage rallied the gay community to permanently turn Santorum into a neologism for a by-product of anal sex that Santorum, even with his successful Iowa performance, hasn't been able to vanquish from the top Google results for his name.

NOM has a history of championing public figures, like Santorum, whom it sees as having been persecuted by gays. (See also former Miss America Carrie Prejean.) The highly secretive organization has spent the better part of the last three years arguing that it's not gays but the supporters of traditional marriage who are the true victims of discrimination, harassment, and hate speech. By hooking up with NOM, Santorum has also allied himself with an organization that has a dubious record of complying with state election laws and federal tax requirements and has battled against campaign transparency laws.

Founded in 2007, NOM was created specifically to put Prop 8 on the ballot in California, but since then it has backed similar measures in Washington, Maine, Iowa, and elsewhere. The group has also targeted political races, vowing to attack any candidate who supports gay marriage.

During the Prop 8 campaign, opponents of the measure used state campaign-finance records to reveal the identities of donors backing the measure and to organize boycotts against some of their businesses. NOM's lawyers, comparing anti-gay marriage activists to early civil rights organizers and the NAACP, claim that as a result of this public outing, among other things, donors suffered harassment and other indignities, such as having their lawn signs stolen during the election. Rather than duke it out in the court of public opinion, NOM sued to allow backers of anti-gay measures to remain cloaked in secrecy.



In the state of Washington, NOM supported a legal effort to keep secret the names of people who signed a public petition to get an anti-gay marriage measure on the ballot. In 2010, the case went all the way to the Supreme Court, where it was met with distaste—even from Catholic Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia, who was in the 8-1 majority and wrote:

Requiring people to stand up in public for their political acts fosters civic courage, without which democracy is doomed. For my part, I do not look forward to a society which...campaigns anonymously...and even exercises the direct democracy of initiative and referendum hidden from public scrutiny and protected from the accountability of criticism. This does not resemble the Home of the Brave.

Santorum has helped NOM raise money to wage these types of legal battles. And he has promised to continue fighting them if he wins the White House. He has also joined most of the rest of the GOP field in signing NOM's pledge promising that, if elected, he would appoint a commission to investigate gay rights activists (presumably nasty-email writers and lawn sign thieves) for harassing supporters of traditional marriage.

The pledge reads: "I, Rick Santorum, pledge to the American people that if elected President, I will...establish a presidential commission on religious liberty to investigate and document reports of Americans who have been harassed or threatened for exercising key civil rights to organize, to speak, to donate or to vote for marriage and to propose new protections, if needed."

Santorum's anti-gay views are widely known. But it's unclear how much Republican voters know about his promise to use the powers of the federal government to target LGBT activists. Except for Paul, most of the other top-tier GOP candidates have also signed NOM's pledge. But as a long-time ally of the group, Santorum seems most likely to actually follow through on that particularly unsavory part of NOM's pledge. It's one thing to dislike gays personally, but it's quite another to use the power of the nation's highest office to launch a witch hunt. It's the kind of stance that might make a

conservative voter give Ron Paul a second look—even after \$50,000 in last-minute negative ads.


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## NEXT IN POLITICS »

Mitt Romney, the Heroic Quarter-Billionaire

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Abe 01/10/2012 07:59 AM

<http://polkcountyforsantorum.c...>

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netprophet 01/10/2012 08:03 AM

Let's examine who the real bigots and "anti" people are. First, Senator Santorum is not "anti-gay" unless you erroneously define that slur as "anti-gay marriage". The Senator's views are fundamentally rooted in the exact same natural law principles that Martin Luther King laid out in his "Letter from a Birmingham Jail" in which he cites the Bible, Jesus, the apostle Paul, Augustine, Aquinas among others as the basis for justice. As Newt Gingrich aptly pointed out, gay marriage laws, where enacted, invoke bigotry against Catholic Charities and other Christian social service agencies because those agencies and charities refuse to support gay marriage adoption based on the same belief system as MLK. So as a result, they are forced to close their doors. That is true bigotry and discrimination and no justice. As Augustine said, "An unjust law is no law at all".

1 person liked this. [Like](#) [Reply](#)



Nice Lady 01/10/2012 08:07 AM in reply to netprophet

The issue here is whether or not government should be meddling in private choices. To deny a factor of human condition based on a religious dogma has no place in our government. Leave that to Afghanistan, Iraq, and Iran.

DaphNola and 16 more liked this [Like](#) [Reply](#)

110444381844

# The Iowa Republican

News for Republicans, by Republicans

## News Center

November 20th, 2011

### Thanksgiving Family Forum Recap, Winners and Losers



The Family Leader's long awaited presidential forum was one of the most interesting events of the GOP primary season. It provided a stark contrast from the televised debates and allowed Iowa caucus goers to hear detailed, substantive answers, instead of the usual 60-second soundbites.

Moderator Frank Luntz did an outstanding job as the moderator and the crowd definitely walked away from the event with a much better grasp on where each candidate stands. Six candidates participated. Mitt Romney declined an invitation.

The forum was clearly designed for social issues, which have received very little focus during the countless other debates. Family Leader CEO Bob Vander Plaats said he would not endorse a candidate until after this event. Every candidate on the stage would like his help. Here is a look at how each candidate fared, in alphabetical order, with winners and losers at the end:

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**Michele Bachmann:** The Minnesota congresswoman got the event off to an odd start by pouring water for everyone else at the table. She provided a lot of substance to her answers and what she said resonated with many in the crowd. This was an event where Bachmann really needed to shine. I thought she did well, especially when discussing her Biblical worldview and the role faith plays in her life.

However, Bachmann did not do well enough to emerge as the clear winner of the event. She needs to snag an endorsement from Bob Vander Plaats' organization to help her regain some momentum in the race. I'm not sure she secured that with this forum. We shall see.

**Herman Cain:** The Georgia businessman needed to clarify his abortion stance, since Bob Vander Plaats said he sounded just like John Kerry and the Democrats on the issue last month. Cain was given the opportunity to take a strong stand. He failed. When asked if he would pursue a federal law or constitutional amendment banning abortion, Cain said, "If it gets to my desk I will sign it." That was a weak answer in front of 2,500 evangelicals. They want a president who will fight for pro-life legislation. Also, a president does not sign constitutional amendments. I wonder if Cain knows that. He was then asked if he would "push hard" for such a bill. Cain said it would be "one of the things" he would work on. Again, weak.

Cain's answers were much shorter and less detailed than any other candidate's. He got emotional on two occasions, talking about being diagnosed with cancer and not being home enough while his kids were growing up. The tears probably helped Cain more anything he actually said. He sounded OK in some spots, but not good enough to cover his abortion responses.

**Newt Gingrich:** It was another strong performance for the former House Speaker. He showed a command of the issues and drew huge applause several times. The crowd loved it when he ripped the Occupy protestors, saying they should be told to "go get a job right after you take a bath". He brought up the need to pass a Personhood amendment to protect all life from conception and that was another crowd pleaser.

Gingrich used a historical analogy with almost every answer. I think he missed an opportunity to discuss his marital woes, though he did so indirectly. He talked about inflicting a lot of pain in his life and needed to make things right with God and those he hurt. This was a very forgiving crowd who wanted to hear the candidates open up. Overall though, Gingrich delivered again.

**Ron Paul:** The Texas congressman had some good moments and some pretty bad ones. He sounded good when talking about liberty and freedom. However, the longer the forum went, the worse Paul did. He really blew it when asked about failures in his life. He talked about not liking to watch himself on TV. Frank Luntz said, "So, no failures?" Paul talked about getting injured in high school hurting his athletic career. It was not a very good answer. Paul lost the audience with that one. He also argued against federal life and marriage amendments. That was not what this crowd wanted to hear. Ron Paul did not do very well, overall.

**Rick Perry:** It might be too late, but the Texas governor is really coming into his own as a candidate. This was another good performance for Perry. He displayed a great sense of humor and came across as very likeable.

Perry's answers were strong, as well. He talked openly about his faith several times, including leaning on God when having to make decisions about "life and death", referring to the death penalty in Texas. He implored pastors to talk about values from the pulpit. Perry came out strong for life and against gay marriage and talked about his record in Texas, which forbids gay couples

from adopting. Perry probably helped his case at this event. It was one of his better moments so far in the campaign.

**Rick Santorum:** The former Pennsylvania senator needed a strong performance in this forum and he delivered one. Santorum scored with his answers on life, moral values, faith, and gay marriage. Basically, on all the core issues that the audience cared most about, Santorum gave solid answers.

Santorum provided the most powerful, and honest, moment of the debate when talking about his daughter Bella, who is a special needs child. Doctors did not give her much of a chance to live and Santorum tearfully admitted that he treated her differently because of that, so that it would not hurt as much if she died. It was a painful admission and showed a very human side to Santorum. He opened up to the audience and revealed a serious flaw. This is exactly what moderator Frank Luntz tried to get the others to do. Overall, this was a very good event for Rick Santorum.

**Overall Winners:** *Newt Gingrich, Rick Santorum, Frank Luntz and The Family Leader.* I think Gingrich and Santorum helped their campaigns the most. Luntz did a terrific job as moderator and The Family Leader put on a terrific event.

**Overall Losers:** *Mitt Romney, Ron Paul, Herman Cain and CSPAN.* Romney should have participated in this event. It would have helped him. Cain again showed he is weak on the abortion issue and Paul's stances did not align with the crowd. CSPAN opted to televise the Democrats' Jefferson-Jackson Dinner in Des Moines, but not The Family Leader's forum. That was a huge mistake and a great disservice to voters around the country.

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PRESS RELEASES from The FAMiLY LEADER (see post-forum releases below)

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Monday, October 3

## **Pollster Frank Luntz to Moderate The Thanksgiving Family Forum for Republican Presidential Candidates**

### **Discussion to surround issues impacting American families**

Pleasant Hill, IOWA. – The FAMiLY LEADER, in conjunction with CitizenLink (the family advocacy arm of Focus on the Family) and the National Organization for Marriage, is pleased to announce that political pollster, Dr. Frank Luntz, will moderate the "Thanksgiving Family Forum – A Family Discussion with the Republican Candidates" on Saturday, Nov. 19. The forum will take place in Des Moines, Iowa at First Federated Church from 4:00-6:00 p.m.

The FAMiLY LEADER has received event confirmations from Michele Bachmann, Herman Cain, Newt Gingrich, Ron Paul, Rick Perry, and Rick Santorum. Invitations were sent to those candidates who finished in the top 5 of The Iowa Straw Poll or who polled 5 percent or above in the RealClearPolitics Poll as of Aug. 28.

The forum's goal is to allow Iowans an opportunity to further vet the candidates on matters related to the family. "This is not a debate," said Bob Vander Plaats, President and CEO of The FAMiLY LEADER. "Our purpose is simply to learn about their worldviews and to listen to their hearts on key family issues. The discussion will allow us to see a more personal side of the candidates."

"We are thrilled that Frank Luntz has agreed to team up with us for the forum," said Vander Plaats. "We believe his unique style, audience participation, and expertise in communication will drive the discussion in a direction unlike any other forum or debate."

Luntz, a top political pollster, is one of the most respected communication professionals in America today. He is also the author of The New York Times best seller, *Words that Work: It's Not What You Say, It's What People Hear.*

Concerning the Nov. 19 Thanksgiving Family Forum, Luntz said, "My responsibility is to deliver a wholly different kind of discussion from the standard debate-by-podium forum. The American people want to know more than which candidate 'debates best.' They want to get past the pre-programmed sound bites and zingers to the real person. Voters want to know how the candidates feel. How they view the world. What is in their hearts."

"I want to go deeper; to engender discussion on the great cultural issues of our time," continued Luntz. "I promise this won't be like anything you've ever seen. No gotcha questions by the panel. No spin by the politicians. Just an authentic discussion among the people who seek to lead this great nation. It has the potential to be the most important forum of the primary presidential campaign."

The FAMiLY LEADER expects 2,500-plus attendees who represent a large influential segment of Iowa caucus-goers. They also anticipate all 99 counties in Iowa will be represented by key organizational and faith leaders. Statewide and national media coverage is expected.

For more information about The FAMiLY LEADER or the event, visit its web site at [www.TheFamilyLeader.com](http://www.TheFamilyLeader.com).

Contact: Julie Summa

###

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Friday, September 2

**The FAMiLY LEADER TO PRESENT THANKSGIVING FAMILY FORUM ON  
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 19**

***CitizenLink and National Organization for Marriage Co-Sponsors for Event***

**Pleasant Hill, IA** – The FAMiLY LEADER, in conjunction with CitizenLink (A Focus on the Family Affiliate) and the National Organization for Marriage, will host the Thanksgiving Family Forum – A Family Discussion With the Republican Candidates on Saturday, November 19th. The forum will take place in Des Moines, Iowa at First Federated Church.

The timing of this forum, less than three months before the Iowa caucuses, is critical both to Iowans who are vetting the candidates and the candidates who are making their case for the Republican nomination.

Tom Minnery, Executive Director of CitizenLink, says, "We are privileged to partner with The FAMiLY LEADER to offer this important forum to advance the discussion in this extremely relevant election cycle. It is more important today than it has ever been to elect a president who fairly represents the family values that Americans hold dear."

The FAMiLY LEADER has invited Michele Bachmann, Herman Cain, Newt Gingrich, Ron Paul, Rick Perry, Mitt Romney, and Rick Santorum. Bachmann, Cain, Paul, and Santorum are confirmed for the event. Invitations were sent to those candidates who finished in the top five at The Iowa Straw Poll or who polled 5% or above in the Real Clear Politics poll as of August 28th.

The purpose of the Thanksgiving Family Forum is to allow Iowans an opportunity to further vet the candidates in a setting friendly to issues affecting the family. The FAMiLY LEADER expects 2,500+ attendees who represent a large influential segment of Iowa caucus-goers. The FAMiLY LEADER also anticipates all 99 counties of Iowa to be represented by key organizational and faith leaders.

"We were intentional about selecting the weekend before Thanksgiving in the hope of giving Iowans something to discuss at the Thanksgiving dinner table," says Bob Vander Plaats, President & CEO of The FAMiLY LEADER. "Iowans are politically savvy and they understand the importance of this selection process and the impact it will have on our nation."

Brian Brown, President of the National Organization for Marriage, says, "The Thanksgiving Family Forum will elevate issues like marriage to the forefront of Iowans' minds and create the conversations necessary to help select the next president of the United States."

The FAMiLY LEADER is a Christian conservative organization which provides a consistent, courageous voice in the churches, in the legislature, in the media, in the courtroom, in the public square... always standing for God's truth in order to strengthen the family.

Contact: Julie Summa

November 19, 2011

## Gov. Perry Shares Staunch Commitment to Conservative Values At Thanksgiving Family Forum

DES MOINES, Iowa - Texas Gov. Rick Perry today participated in the Presidential Thanksgiving Family Forum, hosted by the Family Leader, where he reiterated his principled and longstanding commitment to conservative values.

"I am a faithful, fiscal and social conservative of conviction, not of convenience," said Gov. Perry. "As Governor of the State of Texas, I have signed more pro-life legislation than any governor in my state's history and championed and signed the Texas Defense of Marriage Act. Traditional family values are important to me, to the people of Iowa and to citizens and future of our nation. America needs to reenergize limited government, entrepreneurship and the traditional values that helped us become the greatest, most prosperous nation in history."

Gov. Perry is a staunch defender of life, having signed more pro-life legislation than any other governor in Texas history. He most recently demonstrated his commitment to protecting the lives of the unborn in his *Uproot and Overhaul Washington* plan, in which he pledged to eliminate the federal funding of organizations that fund abortions, such as Planned Parenthood. He supported this same measure in Texas' most recent legislative session by signing important legislation, Senate Bill 7 and House Bill 1, which contain provisions prohibiting tax dollars from funding abortions.

Gov. Perry strongly supports traditional marriage. He signed the Defense of Marriage Act in Texas in 2003, and supported enshrining this law in the Texas Constitution, a measure approved by voters in 2005, which defines marriage in Texas as a union between one man and one woman. He has also pledged to support an amendment to the U.S. Constitution that legally defines marriage as a union between one man and one woman.

As a life-long hunter and concealed handgun license holder, Gov. Perry has been a strong advocate for Second Amendment rights. During his tenure in Texas, he has signed "Castle Doctrine" legislation ensuring that citizens have the right to defend themselves in their homes instead of retreating. He has also worked to prevent local governments from infringing upon Texans' rights to have legally concealed weapons on public property, cut concealed handgun license (CHL) renewal fees for military, veterans and senior citizens, and labored to protect shooting ranges from expensive, frivolous lawsuits as part of his tort reform efforts.

Last Tuesday, Gov. Perry announced his *Uproot and Overhaul Washington* plan, which would establish a part-time, citizen Congress, cut congressional salaries, end lifetime appointments of federal judges, issue an immediate moratorium on new and pending federal regulations, and dismantle wasteful, redundant federal agencies.

Gov. Perry has unveiled other bold and conservative policies in recent weeks, including his *Cut, Balance and Grow* plan and his *Energizing American Jobs and Security* plan. *Cut, Balance and Grow* cuts personal and corporate tax rates to a lower, flat 20 percent rate, cuts federal spending, ends earmarks and corporate loopholes and calls for a federal Balanced Budget Amendment. *Energizing American Jobs and Security* will create up to 1.2 million jobs in every sector, reduce our nation's dependence on hostile foreign oil, revitalize manufacturing and help contain the cost of electricity and fuel.

The Presidential Thanksgiving Family Forum, hosted by the Family Leader, included discussion among GOP presidential candidates about the conservative values Americans have long cherished. The forum was



and the Supreme Court upheld our law. That's a track record of standing up to the court, not just a plan.

#### **On The Need For A Federal Marriage Amendment:**

"If you look at Roe versus Wade, you had a variety of states who legalized the right to an abortion. The pro-life movement didn't have its act together and didn't fight in the states. Eventually one of these laws went to Supreme Court and they said you needed uniform laws. This is exactly what will happen with same sex marriage unless we fight it right now. I am for a Federal Marriage Amendment. I authored it, I forced the only vote on it. I'm all for doing it. But we need to stop this problem like we have here in Iowa. Get it on the ballot. We have to fight the battles in the states, we cannot defer, we cannot rest on the 10th Amendment... Without the institution of marriage our country will fall."

#### **On The Role Of Education:**

"The education system is fundamentally broken. Period. The reason it is broken is because it is a system designed over 100 years ago to educate "children" - at large. We should have an education system that focuses on the customer and the educational establishment says that customer is not the parent. The customer IS the parent because it is the parent's responsibility to educate their children. We homeschool and we think that's best for us, not saying that necessarily for everyone. We need a system to work with each parent to design an educational experience for each child to give them the best possible chance. How many are only concerned with academic achievement? But that's all we measure. It is broken. The only way we get around it is to customize the system. And don't tell me there's not enough money, because it's already spent on the institution not the parents and what is best for their child."

To learn more about former Senator Rick Santorum, please visit [www.RickSantorum.com](http://www.RickSantorum.com)

### **Bachmann Unequivocal on Conservative Principles at Thanksgiving Family Forum**

*Des Moines, Iowa* –Republican presidential candidates gathered tonight at the Thanksgiving Family Forum in Des Moines, Iowa to discuss the conservative values upon which our country was founded. Michele Bachmann, the consistent conservative in the GOP race, was unwavering on her principles to defend life, uphold the Constitution, and return America to prosperity.

As the debate began, Bachmann commented on the need for religious leaders to be empowered to preach from the pulpit about political principles that have an effect on faith and the family. Bachmann cited the lasting impact of Senator Lyndon Johnson's 1954 amendment to a revenue bill as an example of the political censorship of preachers when she said, *"We silence the pastors because of a law that Lyndon Johnson put into effect in the 1950s – because he didn't want them to say something against him. What I would do is back the repeal of that law so that we could exercise First Amendment rights everywhere including in this church and every pulpit."*

Bachmann, asserting her biblical worldview, shared the role her faith plays in governing her actions and the actions she would pursue as president; *"[God] created every aspect of life and he has something to say about every aspect of life so my view of the world is a biblical worldview where I want to see what he has to say about it, because he wrote the owner's manual so to speak. Now people may choose not to go along with a biblical worldview. I do."*

She was unequivocal in applying her worldview when the subject turned to the value of life. *"Every human being is made in the image and the likeness of the holy God. And every human being deserves and needs that protection from our federal government. I will stand for it,"* Bachmann said.

moderated by Dr. Frank Luntz, with faith leaders and socially conservative activists from counties across the state of Iowa in attendance. Citizen Link and the National Organization for Marriage served as keynote sponsors.

For more information about Gov. Perry's record, presidential campaign and plan to get America working again, please visit: [www.rickperry.org](http://www.rickperry.org).

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## **"IT IS CLEAR WHO WON TONIGHT'S FORUM...THE VOTERS."- SENATOR RICK SANTORUM**

Urbandale, IA - At this afternoon's FAMiLY Leader Thanksgiving Family Forum, the winner was clearly the voters.

Senator Santorum said: "When given the opportunity to have a real discussion between candidates, the voters had the opportunity to see into each of our hearts and minds. A great thanks is owed to the FAMiLY Leader, Frank Luntz, and all the organizers of this event for giving each of us at the table the opportunity to show the voters who we are, what shapes our conscience, and what drives our passion for making America the greatest nation in the history of the World. It is clear that each of us would be better than President Obama, and after tonight, the voters don't have to make that judgment based off of just sound-bites."

During this afternoon's forum in Des Moines, Senator Santorum made the following points:

### **On The Number One Thing Missing In America**

"America is a country founded on the concept that our rights come to us from our creator and when God gives us rights, he has laws that we must abide by. We have civil laws that must comport with the higher laws. And as long as abortion is legal, we are not (comporting with the higher laws)."

### **On Who He Is Accountable To:**

"When I was elected, I knew I had a constituency of one - God."

### **On Why Some Are Afraid Of Talking About Faith:**

"The Left has taken over the culture... We all have an obligation, all of us, not just those of us on stage, to engage the culture (to take it back)."

### **On The 10th Amendment:**

"Our country is based on a moral enterprise. Gay marriage is wrong. As Abraham Lincoln said, states do not have the right to do wrong. Some on this stage said they will not get involved (in states' rights to allow gay marriage). I will. States do not have the right. America... is a set of morals and ideals. The President has an obligation to work in the states. I was the only one who came to Iowa (to campaign) to defeat those justices (who redefined marriage) because it was that important."

### **On Activist Courts:**

I would go one step further, I would abolish the entire 9th Circuit. And the idea that the Third Branch, Article 3 - the least important because it's last - could be unchecked is something our Founders would be astounded by. I haven't just detailed a plan though, I've done something. When I was in the Senate, I stood up and told Court they were wrong. When they struck down the (Nebraska) partial birth abortion ban, I worked with the House to draft an almost identical bill, where the first two sections (of the bill) told the Court why they were wrong and that we (the Congress) have an equal right to say what's constitutional



# BURNS & HABERMAN

On 2012



Main Content

## The Family Leader pledge

By MAGGIE HABERMAN | 7/8/11 3:27 PM EDT Updated: 7/9/11 10:18 PM EDT

Molly Ball reports:

Rep. Michele Bachmann and former Sen. Rick Santorum have become the first signers of an Iowa organization's "Marriage Vow," a pledge to uphold a wide-ranging social conservative agenda.

The Family Leader's "Declaration of Dependence upon MARRIAGE and FAMILY" includes opposition to same-sex marriage at every level, a promise to support only judges who are "faithful constitutionalists" and protecting women and children from pornography.

It notes, as the first piece of evidence toward its thesis that "the Institution of Marriage in America is in great crisis," that "Slavery had a disastrous impact on African-American families, yet sadly a child born into slavery in 1860 was more likely to be raised by his mother and father in a two-parent household than was an African-American baby born after the election of the USA's first African-American President."

Signers agree to support making divorce more difficult and reject "Sharia Islam and all other anti-woman, anti-human rights forms of totalitarian control." And they agree to call for "humane protection of women and the innocent fruit of conjugal intimacy — our next generation of American children — from human trafficking, sexual slavery, seduction into promiscuity, and all forms of pornography and prostitution, infanticide, abortion and other types of coercion or stolen innocence."

Though Bachmann staked her early career on opposing gay marriage, she has been quieter on the issue in recent years and said at last month's debate that she didn't object to state-level efforts to legalize it: "I do believe in the 10th Amendment and I do believe in self-determination for the states," she said.

In a news release Friday, the Family Leader reported that Santorum committed to signing the pledge almost immediately upon its unveiling Thursday, and Bachmann contacted the organization less than two hours later. By late afternoon, Bachmann was the first candidate to submit her signed pledge.

"We are thrilled that within 4 hours of its release, already two candidates have committed to The Marriage Vow and expect others to follow," Family Leader President Bob Vander Plaats said in a statement. "Our goal is to send out The Marriage Vow to the candidates, including President Obama, by July 15th and have his/her signed document returned to us by August 1st. We can then publicize their responses at the Iowa State Fair and the Iowa Straw Poll."

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## Frank Schubert to Depart from Schubert Flint Public Affairs

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Public affairs leader will head a new national firm focused on conservative and social issues

SACRAMENTO, Calif., April 3, 2012 /PRNewswire-USNewswire/ -- Frank Schubert, the founder of one of the Sacramento area's most successful public affairs consulting firms has announced that he is leaving the firm he created in 2003 to pursue other consulting interests.

"Founding and leading Schubert Flint Public Affairs has been the highlight of my career," Schubert said. "When I opened my doors in 2003, I hoped I would be able to simply make it on my own in the business. It has been a blessing to build this firm into one of the largest communications companies in the region, and to have had the opportunity to work with so many fine clients, partners and staff."

Jeff Flint, a partner in the firm, will take over running the company and will serve as its president. Flint is expected to lead a restructuring and rebranding of the firm, including naming additional partners, and will focus the company exclusively on serving corporate, governmental, nonprofit and trade association clients.

Schubert, a conservative Catholic, said he would build a new national consulting practice focused on social issues such as protecting life, strengthening families, preserving traditional marriage and protecting religious liberties, along with pursuing conservative public policies that promote prosperity and liberty. A 30-year veteran of public affairs, Schubert has twice been named the nation's most valuable political consultant by the American Association of Political Consultants, and received the Lifetime Achievement Award from the International Association of Business Communicators (Sacramento Chapter).

"My conservative ideology and my faith have been major guiding forces in my decision to work on some important but controversial issues, including life and marriage," Schubert said. "But the firm has become much bigger than me personally. I don't want my work on social issues to continue to overshadow the people who work for me, or the clients we serve. By stepping away from the company, I will be able to continue to work on the issues I care about while allowing the remaining leadership and staff of the firm to pursue the excellent work they are doing for clients, and to continue to grow the business going forward."

Schubert founded the firm in 2003 as Schubert Public Affairs, and added Jeff Flint as a partner in 2006. In 2010 the company was ranked by the Sacramento Business Journal as the 3rd largest in public relations revenue and the 6th largest in advertising revenue. They employ 15 people in Sacramento and Orange County.

Schubert said that the firm has been properly positioned for future growth under the leadership of

Jeff Flint and other key members of the firm.

"Jeff Flint is a highly-accomplished public affairs professional and he will do a fantastic job leading a new iteration of the firm going forward," Schubert said. "I will always make time to assist their work whenever it's useful, but they are well positioned for long-term growth."

Schubert said he has opened a new consulting company, Mission: Public Affairs, LLC that will work across the nation on conservative and social issues. The new company is already engaged in managing ballot initiative campaigns in several states.

"Leaving this firm is bittersweet, because I built it and love all the people and clients who have become a part of my life over the past decade," Schubert said. "But the reality is that it's very difficult for a public affairs professional to serve both corporate clients and work on the conservative side of social issues that challenge popular culture. I've chosen to try to make a difference fighting for families, faith and the principles of the American founding, endowed by God, that gave rise to this exceptional nation of ours. I'm excited about the next chapter in my career."

Schubert's new firm can be reached at [info@missionpublicaffairs.com](mailto:info@missionpublicaffairs.com).

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# NATIONAL REVIEW ONLINE

## Why Gay Marriage and Conservatism Are Incompatible

By Frank Schubert

March 25, 2013 6:52 PM

Same-sex “marriage” advocates are orchestrating a series of high-profile public events intended to influence the justices of the U.S. Supreme Court to impose same-sex marriage on an unwilling public. The announcements of several Republicans who say they now support gay marriage provide clear evidence of this. The meme is that there is a growing consensus among conservatives that same-sex marriage should be accepted.

You can’t support gay marriage and claim to be a conservative any more than you can be “pro-choice” on abortion and claim to be a conservative. Is Michael Bloomberg or Arnold Schwarzenegger a conservative? Any Republican who supports same-sex marriage is in a similar boat.

Homosexual activists are hoping that these statements by moderate or liberal elites in the GOP will appeal to Republicans who make up a majority on the Court — especially Justice Anthony Kennedy. The fact remains, though, that support for true marriage is rock-solid among Republicans in general, and conservatives in particular.

A survey conducted on Election Day, 2012, for the National Organization for Marriage (NOM) by respected GOP pollster Kellyanne Conway revealed that 60 percent of American voters who actually cast ballots in the last presidential election believe that marriage is the union of one man and one woman. The survey found that Republicans believe in this understanding of marriage by a margin of 86 percent to 10 percent, and those who identify as conservatives are even stronger in support of traditional marriage — by a margin of 87 percent to 9 percent.

Having managed many state marriage campaigns, including a campaign in favor of Proposition 8 in California, I can tell you that there is a far larger percentage of Democrats who support true marriage than there are Republicans who favor gay “marriage.” Exit polls in California revealed that 36 percent of Democrats supported Proposition 8, including 70 percent of African Americans. A large percentage of Democrats supported the marriage amendment in North Carolina last year, helping to propel it to passage with 61 percent overall voter approval. The NOM survey found that 40 percent of Democrats support the traditional definition of marriage.

I am still waiting for the newspaper headline that says, “Large Percentage of Democrats Oppose Gay Marriage.” Somehow, I suspect it will never appear.

— *Frank Schubert is the political director of the National Organization for Marriage and was the campaign manager in the successful Proposition 8 campaign in California, along with other marriage campaigns, including North Carolina’s.*

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# THE RAW STORY

## California to investigate anti-gay group over undisclosed donors

By Eric W. Dolan

Wednesday, June 6, 2012 17:34 EDT



Topics: california secretary of state ♦ fred karger ♦ National Organization for Marriage

The state of California's ethics office announced Wednesday that it would investigate the National Organization for Marriage for allegedly trying to hide hundreds of thousands of dollars it received in 2008.

NOM was formed in 2007 to pass Proposition 8 in California, a constitutional amendment to prohibit same sex marriage. According to the group's 2008 Federal Tax Return, they received a \$10,000 contribution from Romney's Alabama PAC, Free and Strong America, in October 2008. However, that donation was allegedly not reported on NOM's filing with the California Secretary of State.

In addition, NOM allegedly failed to report another \$275,000 it received from 10 other contributors.

"The National Organization for Marriage has spent tens of millions of dollars to take marriage rights away from millions of Americans over the last four years," said Republican gay rights activist Fred Karger, whose complaint with the California Fair Political Practices Commission in April led to the investigation.

"NOM is allowed to participate in these elections, but it must obey all state and federal laws and report where all of its money is coming from. Once again it looks like they got caught."

Karger, the head of Californians Against Hate, has previously worked as a senior consultant for Republican Presidents Ronald Reagan, George H. W. Bush and Gerald Ford. He was also the first Republican to enter the 2012 presidential race.

Karger began tracking the activity of NOM in 2008. The following year, he filed a complaint with the Maine Ethics Commission regarding NOM's refusal to disclose its donors.

The ensuing investigation forced NOM to turn over several confidential documents, which explained the group's plan to "drive a wedge between gays and blacks" and other political strategies.

**“The Maine Ethics Commission and Attorney General’s office have done a phenomenal job of gathering evidence in the money laundering case I filed against NOM on August 24, 2009,” Karger said. “The 29 Exhibits they collected are proving to be NOM’s undoing. NOM’s veil of deceit and lies has finally been lifted.”**

# Don't



## NOM docs show ties to anti-gay-marriage PAC

Sofia Resnick | 03.27.12 | 6:56 pm | Republish

posted in Elections/Campaigns | Issue Highlight | LGBT | Politics

Recently unsealed court records and internal documents from the National Organization for Marriage illustrate the close ties between NOM and a committee formed in 2009 to repeal same-sex marriage in Maine.

The Human Rights Campaign on Monday released a chunk of records unsealed by a federal court in Maine, products of NOM's failed legal challenge against Maine's campaign finance law. In 2009, NOM sued the state after Maine's ethics commission attempted to investigate whether or not the organization had violated the state campaign finance law. The investigation was triggered by a complaint (PDF) that political activist Fred Karger filed with the ethics commission, in which he accused NOM of "money laundering." At the time, Karger suggested that the Stand for Marriage Maine Political Action Committee, the main group trying to repeal a recent marriage equality law, might be a front group for NOM — a way for the national anti-gay-marriage group to help overturn the law while keeping its donors secret.

The new documents help illuminate NOM's strategy for intervening in anti-gay marriage ballot initiatives at the state level while circumventing campaign finance disclosure laws.

It has been widely reported that NOM President Brian Brown was on the executive committee of Stand for Marriage Maine PAC at the same time that he was heading NOM. Additionally, Stand for Marriage Maine used Schubert Flint Public Affairs, the same campaign public affairs firm used by NOM to support California's Proposition 8 amendment in 2008.

In these documents, NOM reveals that it planted the seed money that created Stand for Marriage Maine.

In a document NOM produced outlining its "victory strategy" for 2009, NOM talks about how it helped created Stand for Marriage Maine:

NOM has helped create and manage the StandforMarriageMaine.com referendum committee and is pleased to report that we are now close to having the signatures necessary to be on the ballots for the November, 2009 election. Schubert and Flint Public Affairs who managed the successful Proposition 8 campaign is managing the Maine campaign. We are working closely with the Catholic Church and Bishop Malone of Portland. NOM Executive Director Brian Brown serves on the Executive Committee of the Maine Campaign alongside Marc Mutty the Catholic Church's Director of Public Affairs. The seed money that NOM initially provided has encouraged Bishop Malone to lead the fundraising effort—to date he has raised \$150,000 and more than matched our initial funding.

Central to the Maine Commission on Governmental Ethics & Election Practices' investigation into NOM was how much NOM spent on fundraising efforts specifically targeting Maine's

marriage campaign. Based on documents The American Independent reviewed last year, NOM's argument was that the money it donated to Stand for Marriage Maine — estimated by the ethics commission to be a little under \$2 million — came out of NOM's general fund. In other words, NOM claimed it did not solicit money exclusively to fund the Maine campaign, which would have been in violation of a provision in Maine's campaign finance laws that states that organizations raising or spending more than \$5,000 "for the purpose of initiating or promoting a ballot question" are required to register and to file campaign finance reports as a ballot question committee. (Under Maine law, groups do not have to register with the state if their sole financial activity is making a contribution to a PAC.)

In excerpts from a court deposition from 2010, obtained by TAI, Brown maintains the position that NOM did not fundraise specifically for the Maine campaign. He tells Assistant Attorney General Thomas Knowlton, who is representing Maine ethics commission attorney Walter F. McKee and other defendants, that NOM never formed a PAC in Maine because NOM's counsel said it was unnecessary.

In his testimony, Brown reveals how involved he was with Stand for Marriage Maine while NOM was helping to fund the campaign. He tells Knowlton that he helped fundraise for the Stand for Marriage Maine executive committee.

"I wore two hats," Brown says. "I wore the hat of being an executive committee member and so we would encourage folks to give directly to StandforMarriage Maine. ... [S]o I did that also, but obviously from the beginning because, you know, NOM had, you know, given a substantial amount to California, we always thought that NOM would give a substantial amount to Maine, but ideally it would be a lesser substantial amount rather than a bigger substantial amount."

Brown says that NOM was going to give Stand for Marriage Maine about \$1 million and that the PAC had budgeted to raise \$3 million. But as gay-marriage-rights advocates began outspending Stand for Marriage Maine, NOM started to kick in more money, Brown explains.

Brown: [U]nlike California, we were greatly out spent in Maine and, therefore, in order to keep up and get our message out, we had to do more — there had to be more money.

Knowlton: How was it that StandforMarriage Maine asked NOM for money? And I say that because you were wearing two hats. You were on the executive committee of StandforMarriage Maine and you were also the executive director of NOM. So how did that happen?

Brown: Well, it happened in a number of ways. Obviously the campaign manager when a campaign is laid out and you have a certain budget, when you're not meeting that budget, he's going to say we need to raise more money and then everyone is going to go out and try to raise the money. One of the functions I had was to have — you know, to have NOM give money to StandforMarriage Maine when it was — when it was needed and to also make sure that there was other fundraising going on.

Knowlton: And so as the summer of 2009 progressed, would you discuss during your weekly NOM executive committee phone calls the potential for increasing the amount of money that NOM was going to give to StandforMarriage Maine?

Brown: Yes.

Knowlton: How was it decided that ultimately NOM would give roughly 1.8 million to StandforMarriage Maine?

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Knowlton: And so as the summer of 2009 progressed, would you discuss during your weekly NOM executive committee phone calls the potential for increasing the amount of money that NOM was going to give to StandforMarriage Maine?

Brown: Yes.

Knowlton: How was it decided that ultimately NOM would give roughly 1.8 million to StandforMarriage Maine?

Brown: Well, there was complete consensus that this was an important fight and that we should increase what we originally thought we were going to give.

Later in the deposition, Brown tells Knowlton that NOM's purpose in giving money to the Maine PAC was to help pass the referendum but maintains that NOM did not inappropriately solicit funds.

Knowlton: What was the most important issue in October of 2009 with respect to NOM's efforts?

Brown: Maine.

Knowlton: So that being the case, isn't it likely, if not certain, that you would have mentioned the Maine campaign in your solicitations to any donors in September or October of 2009?

Brown: Yeah, we mentioned it with major donors and we also made clear that we don't accept designated gifts and that any donations we receive would go to our general treasury and it would be up to us to figure out how to spend them.

Knowlton: Okay, but you do agree that you or anyone else from NOM who was asking for money in September or October of 2009 certainly mentioned Question 1, the Maine campaign and how important that was to NOM?

Brown: Well, I don't know that all of those things were said in each of the conversations. Often, you know, we might not have brought up Maine, the donor himself might have brought up Maine, but in response to any of that we would say that if you want to give directly to the Maine campaign, you can give directly to StandforMarriage Maine. Any donations to NOM are to our general treasury and they're not designated or earmarked and that any donations to us were going to be put into our general treasury and we would decide where they would go. [...]

Knowlton: That was the most important issue to NOM at that time, correct?

Brown: Correct.

Knowlton: And to NOM's donors, correct?

Brown: I think some donors were still, you know, quite concerned about the California — the Perry case. So I don't know that that is necessarily the case. We did not have many donors in Maine, so often many of the donors were focused on California. So I don't know that that's correct.

Knowlton: But, Mr. Brown, all the materials that I've seen made clear that NOM was trumpeting Maine as a chance to beat back same sex marriage in a blue state.

Brown: Um-hum.

Knowlton: This was a national issue, agreed?

Brown: Agreed.

Knowlton: So it wasn't just a regional Maine issue?

Brown: No.

Knowlton: So donors who were like-minded to NOM would have great interest, would they not, in promoting Question 1?

Brown: Yes.

Knowlton: In the Maine referendum?

Brown: In general they would.

Phyllis Gardiner, an attorney for the Maine ethics commission who works in Maine's attorney general's office, told TAI that the Maine ethics commission's long-stalled investigation into NOM is scheduled to get back into gear next month. What that investigation reveals is likely to shed even more light on NOM's involvement in the anti-gay-marriage campaign and why the group has tried so vigorously to conceal its donors.

*Photo: National for Organization for Marriage President Brian Brown speaks at NOM's 2010 Summer for Marriage Tour, July 27, 2010 (Flickr/Lost Albatross).*



# NATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR MARRIAGE

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June 2009

Dear Friend of Marriage,

Should people like you and me—who know that marriage is between one man and one woman—be treated *by the law* as racists and bigots?

Should schools force your kids or grandkids to learn it's *good* for men to marry men and women to marry women—*while parents are mocked or silenced*?

Should Congress allow a radical judge in Boston or San Francisco to overturn laws in 44 states and impose homosexual marriage across the nation?

I trust your answer to these questions is an emphatic "No!"

**But these nightmares could happen soon—because President Barack Obama and liberal leaders in Congress have promised to repeal the 1996 Defense of Marriage Act.** That's why I'm asking you to join the **Two Million For Marriage Campaign**, a project of my friends at the National Organization for Marriage (NOM).

**Our historic campaign has one goal: *STOP Congress from abolishing the Defense of Marriage Act (known as DOMA).***

If President Obama and House Speaker Nancy Pelosi—backed by a small minority of wealthy gay political donors—repeal the Defense of Marriage Act . . . then radical judges in one state could force homosexual marriage on all of America and into our children's schools.

I will explain how in a moment. But right now, I need you to join me in taking two immediate actions. Please . . .

1. **Sign and return the enclosed petitions.** The **Two Million For Marriage Campaign** has conveniently preaddressed them to your House representative and two U.S. senators. Your petitions tell them, "Don't Mess With Marriage!" and urge them to VOTE AGAINST the plan to repeal the Defense of Marriage Act. **As a former U.S. senator, I can tell you that your petitions will get attention!** We will personally deliver them along with millions of others. **Our goal is two million Americans**—and I'm asking you to join this historic crusade.
2. When you return your petitions to us, please enclose a check to help the **Two Million For Marriage Campaign** recruit more like-minded Americans to

(over, please)



Hon. Rick Santorum

join this effort. Your donation will help us alert and inform tens of millions of Americans by TV . . . radio . . . the Internet . . . mail . . . and on national news networks. With your participation in the campaign, we can stop President Barack Obama's plan to abolish the Defense of Marriage Act.

### **Why is it essential to stop the repeal of the Defense of Marriage Act?**

DOMA was carefully written to specifically shield any state from being forced to recognize gay marriages from other states.

This makes DOMA a strong firewall against out-of-control, anti-marriage judges.

But . . . if Congress repeals DOMA, then gay couples who "married" in Massachusetts, Vermont, Maine, Iowa, Connecticut, or New Hampshire—the only six states where radical officials have imposed gay marriage—will sue other states to recognize their marriages.

Soon gay marriage, like a grassfire, would spread across America!

**In state after state, gay activists and liberal courts would rapidly destroy laws protecting marriage—even constitutional amendments approved by voters.**

I know this would happen for one simple reason.

As a U.S. senator, I helped pass DOMA. It was so popular—and deemed so urgent—it passed 342–67 in the House and 85–14 in the Senate and was signed into law by Bill Clinton.

**But things have changed since 1996. Shockingly, if people like you do not act immediately, the Defense of Marriage Act will almost certainly be overturned!**

On the day he was inaugurated, President Obama posted what he called "The Agenda" on the White House website. It included "the repeal of the Defense of Marriage Act."

**In fact, President Obama's campaign—and those of the liberals who lead Congress—was in great part bankrolled by a small yet zealous network of Hollywood liberals and gay activists.**

While you and I concentrate on raising our families, paying our bills, and going to church, this elite has been plotting to take away our right to define marriage as a husband and a wife . . . and then to use legalized gay marriage to indoctrinate our children in school.

Under the guise of preventing discrimination, they will attack anyone who gets in their way as a bigot—and strip them of their rights. In fact, it's already happening . . .

- **In Massachusetts, where radical judges imposed gay marriage on unwilling citizens, schoolchildren as young as first grade are reading books like *King and King*, which features a gay wedding between two princes, complete with a kiss.**
- **Judges have banned parents from opting out their children. One father was arrested for**

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trying to protect his first-grade son from such "instruction."

- A Christian adoption agency—Catholic Charities—was forced to **shut down** because it refused to obey Massachusetts' requirement to give innocent children to gay married couples.

Make no mistake, the plot to repeal the Defense of Marriage Act is a ruthless attempt by a rich, politically powerful minority to take away the rights of the vast majority of Americans and faith communities.

For example, billionaire gay activist Tim Gill has vowed to "**punish the wicked**"—meaning people like you who oppose gay marriage.

Gill, a software tycoon, has given or raised more than \$10 million to successfully elect politicians who oppose the Defense of Marriage Act.

He wants it dead.

If DOMA is repealed, Tim Gill and his allies will win. The law will regard you as one of the "wicked" for believing that marriage is for a husband and a wife only.

**But they don't have to win.**

**That's why your response to my letter is so crucial.**

I've sent you three powerful weapons to stop them—your petitions.

As I mentioned earlier, I know firsthand—as a former House and Senate member—how *even a few personally addressed petitions* can grab the attention of Washington politicians. But your petitions won't be alone . . .

**We aim to bury Congress in an avalanche of petitions telling them: "Don't Mess With Marriage!" Don't repeal the Defense of Marriage Act. Not now. Not ever.**

But we'll need every petition.

And while your petitions are being delivered on Capitol Hill, your contribution will be hard at work throughout America creating a firestorm of resistance to the plan to repeal DOMA.

You see, the National Organization for Marriage—creator of the **Two Million For Marriage Campaign**—is a proven *winner* in the battle to defend marriage and children.

It helped win the battle for marriage in California in 2008, playing a crucial lead role in the Proposition 8 marriage amendment. That victory defeated wealthy Hollywood liberals as well as judges on the California Supreme Court.

It is led by my friend, pro-family expert Maggie Gallagher (who will debate anyone, anywhere to defend marriage) . . . and veteran pro-family activist Brian Brown, an Oxford-trained leader who helped successfully lead NOM's efforts in California.

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It is **endorsed** by **Dr. James Dobson**, founder of Focus on the Family. Dr. Dobson and his wife, Shirley, personally contributed to the National Organization for Marriage.

**Along with Dr. Dobson, the National Organization for Marriage is endorsed by a coalition of leaders from faith and ethnic communities.**

They know, as Dr. Dobson told us, "Marriage is really on the brink."

**That's why I urge you to join the Two Million For Marriage Campaign today!**

**First**, sign and return your "Don't Mess With Marriage!" Petitions, which we will deliver to your three members of Congress. Tell them to VOTE AGAINST the attempt to repeal the 1996 Defense of Marriage Act.

**Second**, include your contribution of \$25, \$50, \$100, \$250, \$1,000—or whatever you can send—to help us reach our goal of "two million for marriage." With your donation to National Organization for Marriage's **Two Million For Marriage Campaign**, we will:

- **Recruit millions** of Americans to stop the repeal of DOMA through ads on radio, TV, the Internet, magazines . . . mail and e-mail . . . interviews . . . and more.
- **Build coalitions** across parties, races, and denominations to create a chorus to stop the repeal of DOMA that the Washington politicians cannot ignore.
- **Persuade members of Congress.** The National Organization for Marriage is *legally allowed to lobby Congress*—and with your help, we will!

And remember, you can sign your petitions and put your donation to work *immediately* online. Go to [www.TwoMillionForMarriage.com](http://www.TwoMillionForMarriage.com). But please take action today.

If we don't act now, DOMA will soon be repealed—quickly, quietly, and with little fanfare. It's up to us—you and me—to stop them by petitioning Congress and recruiting millions of Americans to join in our effort.

Please let me hear from you today.

God bless you.



Rick Santorum

P.S. Unless you and others stop them now, President Barack Obama and House Speaker Nancy Pelosi will soon abolish the 1996 Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA). Kids will be taught that gay marriage is good—and that their parents are considered *by the law* to be "bigots." Please send your "Don't Mess With Marriage!" Petitions and your donation today.  
Thank you!



NATIONAL  
ORGANIZATION  
FOR MARRIAGE

## **Rick Santorum to Campaign for Marriage in Washington State**

August 23, 2012 at 9:00 am



Former Republican presidential candidate Rick Santorum, an outspoken, longstanding critic of gay rights, will appear in Bellevue and Spokane this fall, as ballots that include a same-sex marriage referendum get mailed to Washington voters.

Santorum is slated to speak at events Oct. 9 and 10 sponsored by the Family Policy Institute of Washington, which upholds the "sanctity" of marriage and advocates "lifelong heterosexual monogamous marriage."

Joseph Backholm, head of the institute, helped put Referendum 74 on the ballot and chairs Preserve Marriage Washington, which is mobilizing the "No" campaign.